



January 11, 2008

SENATE BILL No. 16

DIGEST OF SB 16 (Updated January 9, 2008 5:02 pm - DI 87)

Citations Affected: IC 3-8; IC 3-10; IC 3-11; IC 4-10; IC 5-4; IC 5-28; IC 6-1.1; IC 6-1.5; IC 6-2.5; IC 6-6; IC 6-8.1; IC 25-34.1; IC 32-21; IC 32-28; IC 34-17; IC 36-1; IC 36-2; IC 36-3; IC 36-5; IC 36-6; IC 36-7; IC 36-9; noncode.

Synopsis: Property tax assessing duties. Transfers property assessment duties from all township assessors to the county assessor effective July 1, 2008. Allows an elected township assessor to remain in office until the end of the assessor's term for the sole purpose of assisting the county assessor in the transition. Establishes a procedure for removal from office of a county assessor who fails to perform adequately the duties of office. Transfers to the county assessor township employment positions and other resources related to property assessment. Requires the county assessor to interview for those employment positions current township assessor employees who apply. Allows the county assessor to establish satellite offices in the county. Requires the department of local government finance (DLGF) to adopt rules before December 31, 2008, for the establishment of a single state-designed software system to provide a uniform and common property tax management system for all counties. Directs the DLGF to prepare a request for funding of the software system in the next state biennial budget. Provides that the procedures for filling a vacancy in the office of elected township assessor do not apply to a vacancy that occurs before July 1, 2008. Amends the procedure to obtain a review by the county property tax assessment board of appeals. Provides that the county auditor's annual statement to political subdivisions and the DLGF for counties with

(Continued next page)

Effective: Upon passage; July 1, 2008.

Lawson C, Meeks, Boots, Errington

November 20, 2007, read first time and referred to Committee on Local Government and Elections.
January 10, 2008, amended, reported favorably — Do Pass.

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taxing units that cross into or intersect with other counties must include the assessed valuation as shown on the most current abstract of property. Provides that each appraiser that performs assessments on behalf of a county property assessment contractor must have a level two assessor-appraiser certification, and requires the department of local government finance to consider before approving the contract the contractor's experience, training, and number of employees. Provides that the DLGF must be a party to appraisal and computer contracts. Provides that after June 30, 2009, an employee of the county assessor who performs real property assessing duties must hold a level two or level three assessor-appraiser certification. Repeals the county land valuation commission. Repeals obsolete provisions.

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January 11, 2008

Second Regular Session 115th General Assembly (2008)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2007 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

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SENATE BILL No. 16

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning taxation.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. IC 3-8-1-23.4 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
2 AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
3 1, 2008]: **Sec. 23.4. A candidate for election as a member of the**
4 **county board of tax and capital projects review in 2008 and**
5 **thereafter must have resided in the county for at least one (1) year**
6 **before the election.**

7 SECTION 2. IC 3-10-1-19, AS AMENDED BY P.L.221-2005,
8 SECTION 29, AND AS AMENDED BY P.L.164-2006, SECTION 71,
9 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
10 2008]: Sec. 19. (a) The ballot for a primary election shall be printed in
11 substantially the following form for all the offices for which candidates
12 have qualified under IC 3-8:

13 OFFICIAL PRIMARY BALLOT

14 _____ Party
15 For paper ballots, print: To vote for a person, make a voting mark
16 (X or ✓) on or in the box before the person's name in the proper
17 column. For optical scan ballots, print: To vote for a person, darken or

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shade in the circle, oval, or square (or draw a line to connect the arrow) that precedes the person's name in the proper column. For optical scan ballots that do not contain a candidate's name, print: To vote for a person, darken or shade in the oval that precedes the number assigned to the person's name in the proper column. For electronic voting systems, print: To vote for a person, touch the screen (or press the button) in the location indicated.

Vote for one (1) only

Representative in Congress

☐ (1) AB _____

☐ (2) CD _____

☐ (3) EF _____

☐ (4) GH _____

(b) The offices with candidates for nomination shall be placed on the primary election ballot in the following order:

(1) Federal and state offices:

(A) President of the United States.

(B) United States Senator.

(C) Governor.

(D) United States Representative.

(2) Legislative offices:

(A) State senator.

(B) State representative.

(3) Circuit offices and county judicial offices:

(A) Judge of the circuit court, and unless otherwise specified under IC 33, with each division separate if there is more than one (1) judge of the circuit court.

(B) Judge of the superior court, and unless otherwise specified under IC 33, with each division separate if there is more than one (1) judge of the superior court.

(C) Judge of the probate court.

(D) Judge of the county court, with each division separate, as required by IC 33-30-3-3.

(E) Prosecuting attorney.

(F) Circuit court clerk.

(4) County offices:

(A) County auditor.

(B) County recorder.

(C) County treasurer.

(D) County sheriff.

(E) County coroner.

(F) County surveyor.

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- 1 (G) County assessor.
 2 (H) County commissioner.
 3 (I) County council member.
 4 (5) Township offices:
 5 ~~(A) Township assessor.~~
 6 ~~(B)~~ (A) Township trustee.
 7 ~~(C)~~ (B) Township board member.
 8 ~~(D)~~ (C) Judge of the small claims court.
 9 ~~(E)~~ (D) Constable of the small claims court.
 10 (6) City offices:
 11 (A) Mayor.
 12 (B) Clerk or clerk-treasurer.
 13 (C) Judge of the city court.
 14 (D) City-county council member or common council member.
 15 (7) Town offices:
 16 (A) Clerk-treasurer.
 17 (B) Judge of the town court.
 18 (C) Town council member.
 19 (c) The political party offices with candidates for election shall be
 20 placed on the primary election ballot in the following order after the
 21 offices described in subsection (b):
 22 (1) Precinct committeeman.
 23 (2) State convention delegate.
 24 (d) The following offices and public questions shall be placed on the
 25 primary election ballot in the following order after the offices described
 26 in subsection (c):
 27 (1) School board offices to be elected at the primary election.
 28 (2) Other local offices to be elected at the primary election.
 29 (3) Local public questions.
 30 (e) The offices and public questions described in subsection (d)
 31 shall be placed:
 32 (1) in a separate column on the ballot if voting is by paper ballot;
 33 (2) after the offices described in subsection (c) in the form
 34 specified in IC 3-11-13-11 if voting is by ballot card; or
 35 (3) either:
 36 (A) on a separate screen for each office or public question; or
 37 (B) after the offices described in subsection (c) in the form
 38 specified in IC 3-11-14-3.5;
 39 if voting is by an electronic voting system.
 40 (f) A public question shall be placed on the primary election ballot
 41 in the following form:
 42 (The explanatory text for the public question,

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if required by law.)

"Shall (insert public question)?"

☐ YES

☐ NO

SECTION 3. IC 3-10-2-13 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 13. The following public officials shall be elected at the general election before their terms of office expire and every four (4) years thereafter:

- (1) Clerk of the circuit court.
- (2) County auditor.
- (3) County recorder.
- (4) County treasurer.
- (5) County sheriff.
- (6) County coroner.
- (7) County surveyor.
- (8) County assessor.
- (9) County commissioner.
- (10) County council member.
- (11) Township trustee.
- (12) Township board member.

~~(13) Township assessor.~~

~~(14)~~ (13) Judge of a small claims court.

~~(15)~~ (14) Constable of a small claims court.

SECTION 4. IC 3-11-2-12, AS AMENDED BY P.L.2-2005, SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 12. The following offices shall be placed on the general election ballot in the following order:

(1) Federal and state offices:

- (A) President and Vice President of the United States.
- (B) United States Senator.
- (C) Governor and lieutenant governor.
- (D) Secretary of state.
- (E) Auditor of state.
- (F) Treasurer of state.
- (G) Attorney general.
- (H) Superintendent of public instruction.
- (I) United States Representative.

(2) Legislative offices:

- (A) State senator.
- (B) State representative.

(3) Circuit offices and county judicial offices:

- (A) Judge of the circuit court, and unless otherwise specified

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- 1 under IC 33, with each division separate if there is more than
 2 one (1) judge of the circuit court.
 3 (B) Judge of the superior court, and unless otherwise specified
 4 under IC 33, with each division separate if there is more than
 5 one (1) judge of the superior court.
 6 (C) Judge of the probate court.
 7 (D) Judge of the county court, with each division separate, as
 8 required by IC 33-30-3-3.
 9 (E) Prosecuting attorney.
 10 (F) Clerk of the circuit court.
 11 (4) County offices:
 12 (A) County auditor.
 13 (B) County recorder.
 14 (C) County treasurer.
 15 (D) County sheriff.
 16 (E) County coroner.
 17 (F) County surveyor.
 18 (G) County assessor.
 19 (H) County commissioner.
 20 (I) County council member.
 21 (5) Township offices:
 22 ~~(A) Township assessor.~~
 23 ~~(B) (A) Township trustee.~~
 24 ~~(C) (B) Township board member.~~
 25 ~~(D) (C) Judge of the small claims court.~~
 26 ~~(E) (D) Constable of the small claims court.~~
 27 (6) City offices:
 28 (A) Mayor.
 29 (B) Clerk or clerk-treasurer.
 30 (C) Judge of the city court.
 31 (D) City-county council member or common council member.
 32 (7) Town offices:
 33 (A) Clerk-treasurer.
 34 (B) Judge of the town court.
 35 (C) Town council member.
 36 SECTION 5. IC 4-10-13-2 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 37 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 2. (a) The auditor of
 38 state shall prepare and publish each year the following financial
 39 reports:
 40 (1) A report showing receipts by source of revenue and by type of
 41 fund disbursements as they relate to each agency, department, and
 42 fund of the state government. This report shall include a recital of

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disbursements made by the following functions of state government:

- (A) Education.
- (B) Welfare.
- (C) Highway.
- (D) Health.
- (E) Natural resources.
- (F) Public safety.
- (G) General governmental.
- (H) Hospital and state institutions.
- (I) Correction, parole, and probation.

(2) A report containing the following property tax data by counties:

(A) A report showing:

- (i) the total amount of tax delinquencies;
- (ii) the total amount of the administrative costs of the offices of ~~township and~~ county assessors, the offices of county auditors, and the offices of county treasurers; and
- (iii) the total amount of other local taxes collected.

(B) An abstract of taxable real and personal property, which must include a recital of the number and the total amount of tax exemptions, including mortgage exemptions, veterans' exemptions, exemptions granted to blind persons, exemptions granted to persons over sixty-five (65) years of age, and any and all other exemptions granted to any person under ~~the provisions of~~ the Constitution and the laws of the state.

(b) The reports described in this section shall be made available for inspection as soon as they are prepared and shall be published in the manner provided in section 7 of this chapter by the auditor of state not later than December 31 following the end of each fiscal year.

SECTION 6. IC 5-4-1-8 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 8. (a) The official bonds of officers, if sufficient, shall be approved as follows:

- (1) Of county officers required to give bonds, by the clerk of the circuit court unless otherwise specified in this section.
- (2) Of county sheriff, county coroner, county recorder, county auditor, county treasurer, and clerk of the circuit court, by the county executive.
- (3) Of county assessor ~~and~~ township trustee, ~~and township assessor~~ by the county auditor.
- (4) Of city officers, except the executive and members of the legislative body, by the city executive.

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(5) Of members of the board of public works or of the board of public works and safety in cities, by the city legislative body.

(6) Of clerk-treasurer and marshal of a town, by the town legislative body.

(7) Of a controller of a solid waste management district established under IC 13-21 or IC 13-9.5 (before its repeal), by the board of directors of the solid waste management district.

(b) A person who approves an official bond shall write the approval on the bond.

(c) A bond must be approved before it is filed.

SECTION 7. IC 5-4-1-18 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 18. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), the following city, town, county, or township officers and employees shall file an individual surety bond:

(1) City judges, controllers, clerks, and clerk-treasurers.

(2) Town judges and clerk-treasurers.

(3) Auditors, treasurers, recorders, surveyors, sheriffs, coroners, assessors, and clerks.

(4) Township trustees. ~~and assessors.~~

(5) Those employees directed to file an individual bond by the fiscal body of a city, town, or county.

(b) The fiscal body of a city, town, county, or township may by ordinance authorize the purchase of a blanket bond or a crime insurance policy endorsed to include faithful performance to cover the faithful performance of all employees, commission members, and persons acting on behalf of the local government unit, including those officers described in subsection (a).

(c) The fiscal bodies of the respective units shall fix the amount of the bond of city controllers, city clerk-treasurers, town clerk-treasurers, Barrett Law fund custodians, county treasurers, county sheriffs, circuit court clerks, township trustees, and conservancy district financial clerks as follows:

(1) The amount must equal fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) for each one million dollars (\$1,000,000) of receipts of the officer's office during the last complete fiscal year before the purchase of the bond, subject to subdivision (2).

(2) The amount may not be less than fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) nor more than three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000).

County auditors shall file bonds in amounts of not less than fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000), as fixed by the fiscal body of the county. The amount of the bond of any other person required to file an

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individual bond shall be fixed by the fiscal body of the unit at not less than eight thousand five hundred dollars (\$8,500).

(d) A controller of a solid waste management district established under IC 13-21 or IC 13-9.5 (before its repeal) shall file an individual surety bond in an amount:

(1) fixed by the board of directors of the solid waste management district; and

(2) that is at least fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000).

(e) Except as provided under subsection (d), a person who is required to file an individual surety bond by the board of directors of a solid waste management district established under IC 13-21 or IC 13-9.5 (before its repeal) shall file a bond in an amount fixed by the board of directors.

(f) In 1982 and every four (4) years after that, the state examiner shall review the bond amounts fixed under this section and report in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6 to the general assembly whether changes are necessary to ensure adequate and economical coverage.

(g) The commissioner of insurance shall prescribe the form of the bonds or crime policies required by this section, in consultation with the commission on public records under IC 5-15-5.1-6.

SECTION 8. IC 5-28-15-8, AS ADDED BY P.L.4-2005, SECTION 34, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 8. (a) This section applies to records and other information, including records and information that are otherwise confidential, maintained by the following:

(1) The board.

(2) A U.E.A.

(3) The department of state revenue.

(4) The corporation.

(5) The department of local government finance.

(6) A county auditor.

(7) A ~~township~~ county assessor.

(b) A person or an entity listed in subsection (a) may request a second person or entity described in subsection (a) to provide any records or other information maintained by the second person or entity that concern an individual or a business that is receiving a tax deduction, exemption, or credit related to an enterprise zone. Notwithstanding any other law, the person or entity to whom the request is made under this section must comply with the request. A person or entity receiving records or information under this section that are confidential must also keep the records or information confidential.

(c) A person or an entity that receives confidential records or

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information under this section and knowingly or intentionally discloses the records or information to an unauthorized person commits a Class A misdemeanor.

SECTION 9. IC 6-1.1-1-1.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.88-2005, SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 1.5. (a) "Assessing official" means:

- (1) a ~~township~~ **county** assessor; or
- (2) a member of a county property tax assessment board of appeals.

(b) The term "assessing official" does not grant a member of the county property tax assessment board of appeals primary assessing functions except as may be granted to the member by law.

SECTION 10. IC 6-1.1-1-15 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 15. "Real property" means:

- (1) land located within this state;
- (2) a building or fixture situated on land located within this state;
- (3) an appurtenance to land located within this state;
- (4) an estate in land located within this state, or an estate, right, or privilege in mines located on or minerals, including but not limited to oil or gas, located in the land, if the estate, right, or privilege is distinct from the ownership of the surface of the land; and
- (5) notwithstanding IC 6-6-6-7, a riverboat:
 - (A) licensed under IC 4-33; or
 - (B) operated under an operating agent contract under IC 4-33-6.5;

for which the department of local government finance shall prescribe standards to be used by ~~township assessors~~ **assessing officials**.

SECTION 11. IC 6-1.1-3-1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 1. (a) Except as provided in subsection (c) and section 11 of this chapter, personal property which is owned by a person who is a resident of this state shall be assessed at the place where the owner resides on the assessment date of the year for which the assessment is made.

(b) Except as provided in subsection (c) and section 11 of this chapter, personal property which is owned by a person who is not a resident of this state shall be assessed at the place where the owner's principal office within this state is located on the assessment date of the year for which the assessment is made.

(c) Personal property shall be assessed at the place where it is situated on the assessment date of the year for which the assessment is

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made if the property is:

(1) regularly used or permanently located where it is situated; or

(2) owned by a nonresident who does not have a principal office within this state.

(d) If a personal property return is filed pursuant to subsection (c), the owner of the property shall provide, within forty-five (45) days after the filing deadline, a copy or other written evidence of the filing of the return to the **county** assessor of the **township county** in which the owner resides. If such evidence is not filed within forty-five (45) days after the filing deadline, the **county** assessor of the **township county** in which the owner resides shall determine if the owner filed a personal property return in the **township county** where the property is situated. If such a return was filed, the property shall be assessed where it is situated. If such a return was not filed, the **county** assessor of the **township county** where the owner resides shall notify the **county** assessor of the **township county** where the property is situated, and the property shall be assessed where it is situated. This subsection does not apply to a taxpayer who:

(1) is required to file duplicate personal property returns under section 7(c) of this chapter and under regulations promulgated by the department of local government finance with respect to that section; or

(2) is required by the department of local government finance to file a summary of the taxpayer's business tangible personal property returns.

SECTION 12. IC 6-1.1-3-4 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 4. (a) If a question arises as to the proper place to assess personal property ~~the county assessor shall determine the place if the conflict involves different townships which are located within the county the assessor serves. If~~ **and the conflict involves different two (2) or more counties**, the department of local government finance shall determine the proper place of assessment.

(b) A determination made under this section by ~~a county assessor or~~ the department of local government finance is final.

(c) If taxes are paid to a county which is not entitled to collect them, the department of local government finance may direct the authorities of the county which wrongfully collected the taxes to refund the taxes collected and any penalties charged on the taxes.

SECTION 13. IC 6-1.1-3-5 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 5. Before the assessment date of each year, the county auditor shall deliver to ~~each~~

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1 ~~the county township~~ assessor the proper assessment books and
 2 necessary blanks for the listing and assessment of personal property.

3 SECTION 14. IC 6-1.1-3-6 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 4 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 6. Between the
 5 assessment date and the filing date of each year, the ~~appropriate~~
 6 ~~township county~~ assessor shall furnish each person whose personal
 7 property is subject to assessment for that year with a personal property
 8 return.

9 SECTION 15. IC 6-1.1-3-7 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 10 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 7. (a) Except as
 11 provided in subsections (b) and (d), a taxpayer shall, on or before the
 12 filing date of each year, file a personal property return with the **county**
 13 assessor of ~~each township~~ **the county** in which the taxpayer's personal
 14 property is subject to assessment.

15 (b) The ~~township county~~ assessor may grant a taxpayer an extension
 16 of not more than thirty (30) days to file the taxpayer's return if:

17 (1) the taxpayer submits a written application for an extension
 18 prior to the filing date; and

19 (2) the taxpayer is prevented from filing a timely return because
 20 of sickness, absence from the county, or any other good and
 21 sufficient reason.

22 (c) If the sum of the assessed values reported by a taxpayer on the
 23 business personal property returns which the taxpayer files with the
 24 ~~township county~~ assessor for a year exceeds one hundred fifty
 25 thousand dollars (\$150,000), the taxpayer shall file each of the returns
 26 in duplicate.

27 (d) ~~A taxpayer may file a consolidated return with the county~~
 28 ~~assessor. If the a taxpayer has personal property subject to assessment~~
 29 ~~in more than one (1) township in a county, and the total assessed value~~
 30 ~~of the personal property in the county is less than one million five~~
 31 ~~hundred thousand dollars (\$1,500,000): A the taxpayer filing a~~
 32 ~~consolidated return shall attach a schedule listing, by township, all the~~
 33 ~~taxpayer's personal property and the property's assessed value. A~~
 34 ~~taxpayer filing a consolidated return is not required to file a personal~~
 35 ~~property return with the assessor of each township. A The taxpayer~~
 36 ~~filing a consolidated return shall provide the following: (1) the county~~
 37 ~~assessor with the information necessary for the county assessor to~~
 38 ~~allocate the assessed value of the taxpayer's personal property among~~
 39 ~~the townships listed on the return, including the street address, the~~
 40 ~~township, and the location of the property.~~

41 (2) ~~A copy of the consolidated return, with attachments, for each~~
 42 ~~township listed on the return.~~

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(e) The county assessor shall provide to each affected township assessor in the county all information filed by a taxpayer under subsection (d) that affects the township. The county assessor shall provide the information before:

(1) May 25 of each year, for a return filed on or before the filing date for the return; or

(2) June 30 of each year, for a return filed after the filing date for the return.

(f) The township assessor shall send all required notifications to the taxpayer.

(g) (e) The county assessor may refuse to accept a consolidated personal property tax return that does not have attached to it a schedule listing, by township, all the personal property of the taxpayer and the assessed value of the property as required under **comply with** subsection (d). For purposes of IC 6-1.1-37-7, a consolidated return to **which subsection (d) applies** is filed on the date it is filed with the county assessor with the schedule of personal property and assessed value **required by subsection (d)** attached.

SECTION 16. IC 6-1.1-3-11 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 11. (a) For purposes of this section, "inventory" means:

(1) materials held for processing or for use in production;

(2) finished or partially finished goods of a manufacturer or processor; and

(3) property held for sale in the ordinary course of trade or business.

(b) For purposes of this section, "dealer" has the meaning set forth in IC 9-13-2-42.

(c) For purposes of this section, "established place of business" refers to a place of business that meets the minimum standards prescribed by the bureau of motor vehicles under rules adopted under IC 4-22-2.

(d) If the inventory owned or held by a taxpayer on the assessment date of a year does not, in the taxpayer's opinion, fairly represent the average inventory carried by the taxpayer, the taxpayer may elect to list the taxpayer's inventory for assessment on the basis of the average true tax value of the inventory owned or held by the taxpayer during the preceding calendar year, or during the portion of the preceding calendar year that the taxpayer was engaged in business.

(e) If a taxpayer elects to use the average method, the taxpayer shall notify the ~~township~~ **county** assessor of the election at the time the taxpayer files the taxpayer's personal property return. The election,

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once made, is binding on the taxpayer for the tax year in question and for each year thereafter unless permission to change is granted by the department of local government finance.

(f) If a taxpayer elects to use the average method, the taxpayer shall use that method for reporting the value of all the taxpayer's inventories which are located in this state.

(g) Inventory owned by a dealer shall be assessed at the dealer's established place of business.

SECTION 17. IC 6-1.1-3-14 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 14. The ~~township~~ **county** assessor shall:

(1) examine and verify; or

(2) allow a contractor under IC 6-1.1-36-12 to examine and verify;

the accuracy of each personal property return filed with the ~~township~~ **county** assessor by a taxpayer. If appropriate, the assessor or contractor under IC 6-1.1-36-12 shall compare a return with the books of the taxpayer and with personal property owned, held, possessed, controlled, or occupied by the taxpayer.

SECTION 18. IC 6-1.1-3-15 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 15. (a) In connection with the activities required by section 14 of this chapter, or if a person owning, holding, possessing, or controlling any personal property fails to file a personal property return with the ~~township~~ **county** assessor as required by this chapter, the ~~township~~ **county** assessor may examine:

(1) the personal property of the person;

(2) the books and records of the person; and

(3) under oath, the person or any other person whom the assessor believes has knowledge of the amount, identity, or value of the personal property reported or not reported by the person on a return.

(b) After such an examination, the assessor shall assess the personal property to the person owning, holding, possessing, or controlling that property.

(c) As an alternative to such an examination, the ~~township~~ **county** assessor may estimate the value of the personal property of the taxpayer and shall assess the person owning, holding, possessing, or controlling the property in an amount based upon the estimate. Upon receiving a notification of estimated value from the ~~township~~ **county** assessor, the taxpayer may elect to file a personal property return, subject to the penalties imposed by IC 6-1.1-37-7.

SECTION 19. IC 6-1.1-3-16 IS AMENDED TO READ AS

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1 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 16. If, from the
 2 evidence before ~~him~~, a ~~township~~ **county** ~~assessor~~, the assessor
 3 determines that a person has temporarily converted any part of ~~his~~ **the**
 4 **person's** personal property into property which is not taxable under
 5 this article to avoid the payment of taxes on the converted property, the
 6 ~~township~~ **county** assessor shall assess the converted property to the
 7 taxpayer.

8 SECTION 20. IC 6-1.1-3-17 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 9 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 17. (a) ~~On or before~~
 10 ~~June 1 of each year~~, each township assessor of a county shall deliver to
 11 the county assessor a list which states by taxing district the total of the
 12 personal property assessments as shown on the personal property
 13 returns filed with the assessor on or before the filing date of that year
 14 and in a county with a township assessor under IC 36-6-5-1 in every
 15 township the township assessor shall deliver the lists to the county
 16 auditor as prescribed in subsection (b).

17 ~~(b)~~ (a) On or before July 1 of each year, each county assessor shall
 18 certify to the county auditor the assessment value of the personal
 19 property in every taxing district.

20 ~~(c)~~ (b) The department of local government finance shall prescribe
 21 the forms required by this section.

22 SECTION 21. IC 6-1.1-3-18, AS AMENDED BY P.L.219-2007,
 23 SECTION 11, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 24 JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 18. (a) ~~Each township~~ **The county** assessor of a
 25 **county** shall periodically report to the ~~county assessor and the~~ county
 26 auditor with respect to the returns and properties of taxpayers which
 27 the ~~township~~ **county** assessor has examined. The ~~township~~ **county**
 28 assessor shall submit these reports in the form and on the dates
 29 prescribed by the department of local government finance.

30 (b) ~~Each year, on or before the time prescribed by the department of~~
 31 ~~local government finance~~, each township assessor of a county shall
 32 deliver to the county assessor a copy of each business personal property
 33 return which the taxpayer is required to file in duplicate under section
 34 7(c) of this chapter and a copy of any supporting data supplied by the
 35 taxpayer with the return. Each year, the county assessor:

36 (1) shall review and may audit ~~those~~ **the business personal**
 37 **property** returns **that the taxpayer is required to file in**
 38 **duplicate under section 7(c) of this chapter**; and

39 (2) shall determine the returns in which the assessment appears to
 40 be improper.

41 SECTION 22. IC 6-1.1-3-19 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 42 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 19. (a) While a county

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property tax assessment board of appeals is in session, each ~~township~~
~~county~~ assessor ~~of the county~~ shall make the following information
 available to the ~~county assessor and the~~ board:

- (1) Personal property returns.
- (2) Documents related to the returns. ~~and~~
- (3) Any information in the possession of the ~~county~~ assessor
~~which that~~ is related to the identity of the owners or possessors of
 property or the values of property.

(b) Upon written request of the board, the township assessor shall
 furnish ~~this~~ information **referred to in subsection (a)** to any member
 of the board either directly or through employees of the board.

SECTION 23. IC 6-1.1-3-20 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 20. If an assessing
 official ~~or board~~ changes a valuation made by a person on ~~his the~~
person's personal property return or adds personal property and its
 value to a return, the assessing official ~~or board~~ shall, by mail,
 immediately give the person notice of the action taken. However, if a
 taxpayer lists property on ~~his the taxpayer's~~ return but does not place
 a value on the property, a notice of the action of an assessing official
~~or board~~ in placing a value on the property is not required.

SECTION 24. IC 6-1.1-3-21 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 21. ~~(a)~~ Subject to the
 limitations ~~contained~~ in IC 6-1.1-35-9, assessment returns, lists, and
 any other documents and information related to the determination of
 personal property assessments shall be preserved as public records and
 open to public inspection. The ~~township~~ **county** assessor shall preserve
 and maintain these records. ~~if quarters for his office are provided in the~~
~~county court house; or a branch thereof: If quarters are not provided for~~
~~the township assessor; he shall; as soon as he completes his audit of a~~
~~return; deliver the return and all related documents and information to~~
~~the county assessor; and the county assessor shall maintain and~~
~~preserve the items: The township assessor shall ensure that the county~~
~~assessor has full access to the assessment records maintained by the~~
~~township assessor:~~

(b) Each county shall furnish an office for a township assessor in the
 county courthouse; or a branch thereof; if the township he serves has
 a population of thirty-five thousand (35,000) or more. ~~A county may~~
~~furnish an office in the county courthouse; or branch thereof; for any~~
~~township assessor:~~

SECTION 25. IC 6-1.1-4-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.228-2005,
 SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 4. (a) A general reassessment, involving a

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physical inspection of all real property in Indiana, shall begin July 1, 2000, and be the basis for taxes payable in 2003.

(b) A general reassessment, involving a physical inspection of all real property in Indiana, shall begin July 1, 2009, and each fifth year thereafter. Each reassessment under this subsection:

(1) shall be completed on or before March 1 of the year that succeeds by two (2) years the year in which the general reassessment begins; and

(2) shall be the basis for taxes payable in the year following the year in which the general assessment is to be completed.

(c) In order to ensure that assessing officials ~~and members of each county property tax assessment board of appeals~~ are prepared for a general reassessment of real property, the department of local government finance shall give adequate advance notice of the general reassessment to the ~~county and township taxing assessing~~ officials of each county.

SECTION 26. IC 6-1.1-4-4.7, AS ADDED BY P.L.228-2005, SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 4.7. (a) For purposes of this section, "assessor" means:

(1) a township assessor; or

(2) a county assessor who assumes the responsibility for verifying sales under 50 IAC 21-3-2(b).

(b) The department of local government finance shall provide training to **county** assessors and county auditors with respect to the verification of sales disclosure forms under 50 IAC 21-3-2.

SECTION 27. IC 6-1.1-4-12.4 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 12.4. (a) For purposes of this section, the term "oil or gas interest" includes but is not limited to:

(1) royalties;

(2) overriding royalties;

(3) mineral rights; or

(4) working interest;

in any oil or gas located on or beneath the surface of land which lies within this state.

(b) Oil or gas interest is subject to assessment and taxation as real property. Notwithstanding ~~the provisions of IC 1971, 6-1.1-4-4, section 4 of this chapter,~~ each oil or gas interest shall be assessed annually by the **county** assessor of the ~~township~~ **county** in which the oil or gas is located. The township ~~or county~~ assessor shall assess the oil or gas interest to the person who owns or operates the interest.

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(c) A piece of equipment is an appurtenance to land if it is incident to and necessary for the production of oil and gas from the land covered by the oil or gas interest. This equipment includes but is not limited to wells, pumping units, lines, treaters, separators, tanks, and secondary recovery facilities. These appurtenances are subject to ~~assessment~~ **assessment** as real property. Notwithstanding ~~the provisions of IC 1971, 6-1.1-4-4,~~ **section 4 of this chapter**, each of these appurtenances shall be assessed annually by the **county** assessor of the **township county** in which the appurtenance is located. The township **or county** assessor shall assess the appurtenance to the person who owns or operates the working interest in the oil or gas interest.

SECTION 28. IC 6-1.1-4-12.6 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 12.6. (a) For purposes of this section, the term "secondary recovery method" includes but is not limited to the stimulation of oil production by means of the injection of water, steam, hydrocarbons, or chemicals, or by means of in situ combustion.

(b) The total assessed value of all interests in the oil located on or beneath the surface of a particular tract of land equals the product of:

- (1) the average daily production of the oil; multiplied by
- (2) three hundred sixty-five (365); and multiplied by
- (3) the posted price of oil on the assessment date.

However, if the oil is being extracted by use of a secondary recovery method, the total assessed value of all interests in the oil equals one-half (1/2) the assessed value computed under the formula prescribed in this subsection. The ~~appropriate township county~~ assessor shall, in the manner prescribed by the department of local government finance, apportion the total assessed value of all interests in the oil among the owners of those interests.

(c) The ~~appropriate township county~~ assessor shall, in the manner prescribed by the department of local government finance, determine and apportion the total assessed value of all interests in the gas located beneath the surface of a particular tract of land.

(d) The department of local government finance shall prescribe a schedule for **township county** assessors to use in assessing the appurtenances described in section 12.4(c) of this chapter.

SECTION 29. IC 6-1.1-4-13.6 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 13.6. (a) The ~~township county~~ assessor shall determine the values of all classes of commercial, industrial, and residential land (including farm homesites) in the ~~township county~~ using guidelines determined by the department of local government finance. Not later than November 1 of the year

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preceding the year in which a general reassessment becomes effective, the assessor determining the values of land shall submit the values to the county property tax assessment board of appeals. Not later than December 1 of the year preceding the year in which a general reassessment becomes effective, the county property tax assessment board of appeals shall hold a public hearing in the county concerning those values. The property tax assessment board of appeals shall give notice of the hearing in accordance with IC 5-3-1 and shall hold the hearing after March 31 and before December 1 of the year preceding the year in which the general reassessment under ~~IC 6-1.1-4-4~~ **section 4 of this chapter** becomes effective.

(b) The county property tax assessment board of appeals shall review the values submitted under subsection (a) and may make any modifications it considers necessary to provide uniformity and equality. The county property tax assessment board of appeals shall coordinate the valuation of property adjacent to the boundaries of the county with the county property tax assessment boards of appeals of the adjacent counties using the procedures adopted by rule under IC 4-22-2 by the department of local government finance. If the county assessor ~~or township assessor~~ fails to submit land values under subsection (a) to the county property tax assessment board of appeals before November 1 of the year before the date the general reassessment under ~~IC 6-1.1-4-4~~ **section 4 of this chapter** becomes effective, the county property tax assessment board of appeals shall determine the values. If the county property tax assessment board of appeals fails to determine the values before the general reassessment becomes effective, the department of local government finance shall determine the values.

(c) ~~The county assessor shall notify all township assessors in the county of the values as modified by the county property tax assessment board of appeals. Township assessors~~ **Assessing officials** shall use the values determined under this section.

SECTION 30. IC 6-1.1-4-15 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 15. (a) If real property is subject to assessment or reassessment under this chapter, the **county** assessor of the township in which the property is located shall either appraise the property ~~himself~~ or have it appraised.

(b) In order to determine the assessed value of buildings and other improvements, the ~~township~~ **county** assessor or ~~his~~ **the assessor's** authorized representative may, after first making known ~~his~~ **the assessor's or representative's** intention to the owner or occupant, enter and fully examine all buildings and structures which are located within the ~~township he serves~~ **county** and which are subject to

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assessment.

SECTION 31. IC 6-1.1-4-16, AS AMENDED BY P.L.228-2005, SECTION 7, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 16. (a) For purposes of making a general reassessment of real property or annual adjustments under section 4.5 of this chapter, ~~any township assessor and any a~~ county assessor may employ:

- (1) deputies;
- (2) employees; and
- (3) technical advisors who are:
 - (A) qualified to determine real property values;
 - (B) professional appraisers certified under 50 IAC 15; and
 - (C) employed either on a full-time or a part-time basis, subject to sections 18.5 and 19.5 of this chapter.

(b) The county council of each county shall appropriate the funds necessary for the employment of deputies, employees, or technical advisors employed under subsection (a) of this section.

SECTION 32. IC 6-1.1-4-17, AS AMENDED BY P.L.228-2005, SECTION 8, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 17. **(a) As used in this chapter, "professional appraiser" means an individual or a firm that is certified under IC 6-1.1-31.7.**

~~(a)~~ **(b)** Subject to the approval of the department of local government finance and the requirements of section 18.5 of this chapter, a

- ~~(1) township assessor; or~~
- ~~(2) group consisting of the county assessor and the township assessors in a county;~~

may employ professional appraisers as technical advisors **for assessments in all townships in the county. The department of local government finance may approve employment under this subsection only if the department:**

- (1) is a party to the employment contract; and**
- (2) determines that:**
 - (A) the professional appraiser or appraisal firm has sufficient training and experience to perform the employment duties; and**
 - (B) with respect to employment of a professional appraisal firm, the firm has a sufficient number of qualified employees for the employment.**

(c) A decision by one ~~(1)~~ or more assessors referred to in subdivisions ~~(1)~~ and ~~(2)~~ a county assessor to not employ a professional

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appraiser as a technical advisor in a general reassessment is subject to approval by the department of local government finance.

(b) After notice to the county assessor and all township assessors in the county, a majority of the assessors authorized to vote under this subsection may vote to:

(1) employ a professional appraiser to act as a technical advisor in the county during a general reassessment period;

(2) appoint an assessor or a group of assessors to:

(A) enter into and administer the contract with a professional appraiser employed under this section; and

(B) oversee the work of a professional appraiser employed under this section.

Each township assessor and the county assessor has one (1) vote. A decision by a majority of the persons authorized to vote is binding on the county assessor and all township assessors in the county. Subject to the limitations in section 18.5 of this chapter, the assessor or assessors appointed under subdivision (2) may contract with a professional appraiser employed under this section to supply technical advice during a general reassessment period for all townships in the county. A proportionate part of the appropriation to all townships for assessing purposes shall be used to pay for the technical advice.

(c) As used in this chapter, "professional appraiser" means an individual or firm that is certified under IC 6-1.1-31.7.

SECTION 33. IC 6-1.1-4-18.5 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 18.5. (a) A township assessor, a group of township assessors, or the county assessor may not use the services of a professional appraiser for assessment or reassessment purposes without a written contract. The contract used must be either a standard contract developed by the state board of tax commissioners (before the board was abolished) or the department of local government finance or a contract which that has been specifically approved by the board or the department. The department shall ensure that the contract:

(1) includes all of the provisions required under section 19.5(b) of this chapter; and

(2) adequately provides for the creation and transmission of real property assessment data in the form required by the legislative services agency and the division of data analysis of the department.

(b) No contract shall be made with any professional appraiser to act as technical advisor in the assessment of property, before the giving of notice and the receiving of bids from anyone desiring to furnish this

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service. Notice of the time and place for receiving bids for the contract shall be given by publication by one (1) insertion in two (2) newspapers of general circulation published in the county and representing each of the two (2) leading political parties in the county. ~~or~~ If only one (1) newspaper is there published, notice in that one (1) newspaper is sufficient to comply with the requirements of this subsection. The contract shall be awarded to the lowest and best bidder who meets all requirements under law for entering a contract to serve as technical advisor in the assessment of property. However, any and all bids may be rejected, and new bids may be asked.

(c) The county council of each county shall appropriate the funds needed to meet the obligations created by a professional appraisal services contract which is entered into under this chapter.

SECTION 34. IC 6-1.1-4-19.5 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 19.5. (a) The department of local government finance shall develop a standard contract or standard provisions for contracts to be used in securing professional appraising services.

(b) The standard contract or contract provisions must contain:

- (1) a fixed date by which the professional appraiser or appraisal firm shall have completed all responsibilities under the contract;
- (2) a penalty clause under which the amount to be paid for appraisal services is decreased for failure to complete specified services within the specified time;
- (3) a provision requiring the appraiser, or appraisal firm, to make periodic reports to the ~~township assessors involved;~~ **county assessor;**
- (4) a provision stipulating the manner in which, and the time intervals at which, the periodic reports referred to in subdivision (3) of this subsection are to be made;
- (5) a precise stipulation of what service or services are to be provided and what class or classes of property are to be appraised;
- (6) a provision stipulating that the contractor will generate complete parcel characteristics and parcel assessment data in a manner and format acceptable to the legislative services agency and the department of local government finance; ~~and~~
- (7) a provision stipulating that the legislative services agency and the department of local government finance have unrestricted access to the contractor's work product under the contract; **and**
- (8) a provision stating that the department of local government finance is a party to the contract.**

The department of local government finance may devise other

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necessary provisions for the contracts in order to give effect to ~~the provisions of~~ this chapter.

(c) In order to comply with the duties assigned to it by this section, the department of local government finance may develop:

- (1) one (1) or more model contracts;
- (2) one (1) contract with alternate provisions; or
- (3) any combination of subdivisions (1) and (2).

The department may approve special contract language in order to meet any unusual situations.

SECTION 35. IC 6-1.1-4-20 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 20. The department of local government finance may establish a period with respect to each general reassessment that is the only time during which a ~~township or~~ county assessor may enter into a contract with a professional appraiser. The period set by the department of local government finance may not begin before January 1 of the year the general reassessment begins. If no period is established by the department of local government finance, a ~~township or~~ county assessor may enter into such a contract only on or after January 1 and before April 16 of the year in which the general reassessment is to commence.

SECTION 36. IC 6-1.1-4-21 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 21. (a) If, during a period of general reassessment, a ~~township~~ county assessor **personally** makes the real property appraisals, ~~himself~~, the appraisals of the parcels subject to taxation must be completed as follows:

- (1) The appraisal of one-fourth (1/4) of the parcels shall be completed before December 1 of the year in which the general reassessment begins.
- (2) The appraisal of one-half (1/2) of the parcels shall be completed before May 1 of the year following the year in which the general reassessment begins.
- (3) The appraisal of three-fourths (3/4) of the parcels shall be completed before October 1 of the year following the year in which the general reassessment begins.
- (4) The appraisal of all the parcels shall be completed before March 1 of the second year following the year in which the general reassessment begins.

(b) If a ~~township~~ county assessor employs a professional appraiser or a professional appraisal firm to make real property appraisals during a period of general reassessment, the professional appraiser or appraisal firm must file appraisal reports with the ~~township~~ county assessor as follows:

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(1) The appraisals for one-fourth (1/4) of the parcels shall be reported before December 1 of the year in which the general reassessment begins.

(2) The appraisals for one-half (1/2) of the parcels shall be reported before May 1 of the year following the year in which the general reassessment begins.

(3) The appraisals for three-fourths (3/4) of the parcels shall be reported before October 1 of the year following the year in which the general reassessment begins.

(4) The appraisals for all the parcels shall be reported before March 1 of the second year following the year in which the general reassessment begins.

However, the reporting requirements prescribed in this subsection do not apply if the contract under which the professional appraiser, or appraisal firm, is employed prescribes different reporting procedures.

SECTION 37. IC 6-1.1-4-22 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 22. (a) If any assessing official ~~or any county property tax assessment board of appeals~~ assesses or reassesses any real property under ~~the provisions of this~~ article, the official ~~or county property tax assessment board of appeals~~ shall give notice to the taxpayer and the county assessor, by mail, of the amount of the assessment or reassessment.

(b) During a period of general reassessment, each ~~township~~ **county** assessor shall mail the notice required by this section within ninety (90) days after ~~he~~ **the assessor**:

(1) completes ~~his~~ **the** appraisal of a parcel; or

(2) receives a report for a parcel from a professional appraiser or professional appraisal firm.

SECTION 38. IC 6-1.1-4-25, AS AMENDED BY P.L.177-2005, SECTION 27, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 25. (a) Each ~~township~~ **county** assessor shall keep the assessor's reassessment data and records current by securing the necessary field data and by making changes in the assessed value of real property as changes occur in the use of the real property. The ~~township~~ **county** assessor's records shall at all times show the assessed value of real property in accordance with ~~the provisions of this chapter~~. ~~The township assessor shall ensure that the county assessor has full access to the assessment records maintained by the township assessor.~~

(b) The ~~township~~ assessor in a county having a consolidated city or the county assessor in every other county, shall:

(1) maintain an electronic data file of:

(A) the parcel characteristics and parcel assessments of all

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- 1 parcels; and
 2 (B) the personal property return characteristics and
 3 assessments by return;
 4 for each township in the county as of each assessment date;
 5 (2) maintain the electronic file in a form that formats the
 6 information in the file with the standard data, field, and record
 7 coding required and approved by:
 8 (A) the legislative services agency; and
 9 (B) the department of local government finance;
 10 (3) transmit the data in the file with respect to the assessment date
 11 of each year before October 1 of the year to:
 12 (A) the legislative services agency; and
 13 (B) the department of local government finance;
 14 in a manner that meets the data export and transmission
 15 requirements in a standard format, as prescribed by the office of
 16 technology established by IC 4-13.1-2-1 and approved by the
 17 legislative services agency; and
 18 (4) resubmit the data in the form and manner required under this
 19 subsection, upon request of the legislative services agency or the
 20 department of local government finance, if data previously
 21 submitted under this subsection does not comply with the
 22 requirements of this subsection, as determined by the legislative
 23 services agency or the department of local government finance.
 24 An electronic data file maintained for a particular assessment date may
 25 not be overwritten with data for a subsequent assessment date until a
 26 copy of an electronic data file that preserves the data for the particular
 27 assessment date is archived in the manner prescribed by the office of
 28 technology established by IC 4-13.1-2-1 and approved by the
 29 legislative services agency.
 30 SECTION 39. IC 6-1.1-4-27.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.219-2007,
 31 SECTION 13, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 32 JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 27.5. (a) The auditor of each county shall establish
 33 a property reassessment fund. The county treasurer shall deposit all
 34 collections resulting from the property taxes that the county levies for
 35 the county's property reassessment fund.
 36 (b) With respect to the general reassessment of real property that is
 37 to commence on July 1, 2009, the county council of each county shall,
 38 for property taxes due in 2006, 2007, 2008, and 2009, levy in each year
 39 against all the taxable property in the county an amount equal to
 40 one-fourth (1/4) of the remainder of:
 41 (1) the estimated costs referred to in section 28.5(a) of this
 42 chapter; minus

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(2) the amount levied under this section by the county council for property taxes due in 2004 and 2005.

(c) With respect to a general reassessment of real property that is to commence on July 1, 2014, and each fifth year thereafter, the county council of each county shall, for property taxes due in the year that the general reassessment is to commence and the four (4) years preceding that year, levy against all the taxable property in the county an amount equal to one-fifth (1/5) of the estimated costs of the general reassessment under section 28.5 of this chapter.

(d) The department of local government finance shall give to each county council notice, before January 1 in a year, of the tax levies required by this section for that year.

(e) The department of local government finance may raise or lower the property tax levy under this section for a year if the department determines it is appropriate because the estimated cost of:

(1) a general reassessment; or

(2) making annual adjustments under section 4.5 of this chapter; has changed.

(f) The county assessor ~~or township assessor~~ may petition the county fiscal body to increase the levy under subsection (b) or (c) to pay for the costs of:

(1) a general reassessment;

(2) verification under 50 IAC 21-3-2 of sales disclosure forms forwarded to

~~(A) the county assessor or~~

~~(B) township assessors;~~

under IC 6-1.1-5.5-3; or

(3) processing annual adjustments under section 4.5 of this chapter.

The assessor must document the needs and reasons for the increased funding.

(g) If the county fiscal body denies a petition under subsection (f), the **county** assessor may appeal to the department of local government finance. The department of local government finance shall:

(1) hear the appeal; and

(2) determine whether the additional levy is necessary.

SECTION 40. IC 6-1.1-4-28.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.219-2007, SECTION 14, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 28.5. (a) Money assigned to a property reassessment fund under section 27.5 of this chapter may be used only to pay the costs of:

(1) the general reassessment of real property, including the

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computerization of assessment records;

(2) payments to ~~county assessors; members of property tax assessment boards of appeals; or~~ assessing officials **and hearing officers for county property tax assessment boards of appeals** under IC 6-1.1-35.2;

(3) the development or updating of detailed soil survey data by the United States Department of Agriculture or its successor agency;

(4) the updating of plat books;

(5) payments for the salary of permanent staff or for the contractual services of temporary staff who are necessary to assist ~~county assessors; members of a county property tax assessment board of appeals; and~~ assessing officials;

(6) making annual adjustments under section 4.5 of this chapter; and

(7) the verification under 50 IAC 21-3-2 of sales disclosure forms forwarded to

~~(A) the county assessor or~~

~~(B) township assessors;~~

under IC 6-1.1-5.5-3.

Money in a property tax reassessment fund may not be transferred or reassigned to any other fund and may not be used for any purposes other than those set forth in this section.

(b) All counties shall use modern, detailed soil maps in the general reassessment of agricultural land.

(c) The county treasurer of each county shall, in accordance with IC 5-13-9, invest any money accumulated in the property reassessment fund. Any interest received from investment of the money shall be paid into the property reassessment fund.

(d) An appropriation under this section must be approved by the fiscal body of the county after the review and recommendation of the county assessor. ~~However, in a county with an elected township assessor in every township, the county assessor does not review an appropriation under this section; and only the fiscal body must approve an appropriation under this section.~~

SECTION 41. IC 6-1.1-4-29 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 29. (a) The expenses of a reassessment, except those incurred by the department of local government finance in performing its normal functions, shall be paid by the county in which the reassessed property is situated. These expenses, except for the expenses of a general reassessment, shall be paid from county funds. The county auditor shall issue warrants for the

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1 payment of reassessment expenses. No prior appropriations are
2 required in order for the auditor to issue warrants.

3 (b) An order of the department of local government finance
4 directing the reassessment of property shall contain an estimate of the
5 cost of making the reassessment. The ~~total~~ assessing officials in the
6 county, ~~assessor~~, the county property tax assessment board of appeals,
7 and the county auditor may not exceed the amount so estimated by the
8 department of local government finance.

9 SECTION 42. IC 6-1.1-4-31, AS AMENDED BY P.L.228-2005,
10 SECTION 11, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
11 JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 31. (a) The department of local government
12 finance shall periodically check the conduct of:

- 13 (1) a general reassessment of property;
- 14 (2) work required to be performed by local officials under 50
- 15 IAC 21; and
- 16 (3) other property assessment activities in the county, as
- 17 determined by the department.

18 The department of local government finance may inform ~~township~~
19 ~~assessors~~ county assessors and the presidents of county councils in
20 writing if its check reveals that the general reassessment or other
21 property assessment activities are not being properly conducted, work
22 required to be performed by local officials under 50 IAC 21 is not
23 being properly conducted, or property assessments are not being
24 properly made.

25 (b) The failure of the department of local government finance to
26 inform local officials under subsection (a) shall not be construed as an
27 indication by the department that:

- 28 (1) the general reassessment or other property assessment
- 29 activities are being properly conducted;
- 30 (2) work required to be performed by local officials under 50
- 31 IAC 21 is being properly conducted; or
- 32 (3) property assessments are being properly made.

33 (c) If the department of local government finance:

- 34 (1) determines under subsection (a) that a general reassessment
- 35 or other assessment activities for a general reassessment year or
- 36 any other year are not being properly conducted; and
- 37 (2) informs:

38 ~~(A) the township assessor of each affected township;~~

39 ~~(B)~~ (A) the county assessor; and

40 ~~(C)~~ (B) the president of the county council;

41 in writing under subsection (a);

42 the department may order a state conducted assessment or reassessment

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under section 31.5 of this chapter to begin not less than sixty (60) days after the date of the notice under subdivision (2). If the department determines during the period between the date of the notice under subdivision (2) and the proposed date for beginning the state conducted assessment or reassessment that the general reassessment or other assessment activities for the general reassessment are being properly conducted, the department may rescind the order.

(d) If the department of local government finance:

(1) determines under subsection (a) that work required to be performed by local officials under 50 IAC 21 is not being properly conducted; and

(2) informs:

~~(A) the township assessor of each affected township~~

~~(B) (A) the county assessor; and~~

~~(C) (B) the president of the county council;~~

in writing under subsection (a);

the department may conduct the work or contract to have the work conducted to begin not less than sixty (60) days after the date of the notice under subdivision (2). If the department determines during the period between the date of the notice under subdivision (2) and the proposed date for beginning the work or having the work conducted that work required to be performed by local officials under 50 IAC 21 is being properly conducted, the department may rescind the order.

(e) If the department of local government finance contracts to have work conducted under subsection (d), the department shall forward the bill for the services to the county and the county shall pay the bill under the same procedures that apply to county payments of bills for assessment or reassessment services under section 31.5 of this chapter.

(f) A county council president who is informed by the department of local government finance under subsection (a) shall provide the information to the board of county commissioners. A board of county commissioners that receives information under this subsection may adopt an ordinance determining that:

(1) the information indicates that the county assessor has failed to perform adequately the duties of county assessor; and

(2) by that failure the county assessor forfeits the office of county assessor and is subject to removal from office by an information filed under IC 34-17-2-1(b).

SECTION 43. IC 6-1.1-4-31.5, AS ADDED BY P.L.228-2005, SECTION 12, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 31.5. ~~(a) As used in this section, "assessment~~

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official" means any of the following:

(1) ~~A~~ county assessor;

(2) ~~A~~ township assessor;

(3) ~~A~~ township trustee-assessor;

(b) (a) As used in this section, "department" refers to the department of local government finance.

(c) (b) If the department makes a determination and informs local officials under section 31(c) of this chapter, the department may order a state conducted assessment or reassessment in the county subject to the time limitation in that subsection.

(d) (c) If the department orders a state conducted assessment or reassessment in a county, the department shall assume the duties of the county's ~~assessment~~ **assessing** officials. Notwithstanding sections 15 and 17 of this chapter, an ~~assessment~~ **assessing** official in a county subject to an order issued under this section may not assess property or have property assessed for the assessment or general reassessment. Until the state conducted assessment or reassessment is completed under this section, the assessment or reassessment duties of an ~~assessment~~ **assessing** official in the county are limited to providing the department or a contractor of the department the support and information requested by the department or the contractor.

(e) (d) Before assuming the duties of a county's ~~assessment~~ **assessing** officials, the department shall transmit a copy of the department's order requiring a state conducted assessment or reassessment to the county's ~~assessment~~ **assessing** officials, the county fiscal body, the county auditor, and the county treasurer. Notice of the department's actions must be published one (1) time in a newspaper of general circulation published in the county. The department is not required to conduct a public hearing before taking action under this section.

(f) (e) ~~Township and county officials~~ **An assessing official** in a county subject to an order issued under this section shall, at the request of the department or the department's contractor, make available and provide access to all:

- (1) data;
- (2) records;
- (3) maps;
- (4) parcel record cards;
- (5) forms;
- (6) computer software systems;
- (7) computer hardware systems; and
- (8) other information;

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related to the assessment or reassessment of real property in the county. The information described in this subsection must be provided at no cost to the department or the contractor of the department. A failure to provide information requested under this subsection constitutes a failure to perform a duty related to an assessment or a general reassessment and is subject to IC 6-1.1-37-2.

~~(g)~~ (f) The department may enter into a contract with a professional appraising firm to conduct an assessment or reassessment under this section. If a county ~~or a township located in the county~~ entered into a contract with a professional appraising firm to conduct the county's assessment or reassessment before the department orders a state conducted assessment or reassessment in the county under this section, the contract:

- (1) is as valid as if it had been entered into by the department; and
- (2) shall be treated as the contract of the department.

~~(h)~~ (g) After receiving the report of assessed values from the appraisal firm acting under a contract described in subsection ~~(g)~~, (f), the department shall give notice to the taxpayer and the county assessor, by mail, of the amount of the assessment or reassessment. The notice of assessment or reassessment:

- (1) is subject to appeal by the taxpayer under section 31.7 of this chapter; and
- (2) must include a statement of the taxpayer's rights under section 31.7 of this chapter.

~~(i)~~ (h) The department shall forward a bill for services provided under a contract described in subsection ~~(g)~~ (f) to the auditor of the county in which the state conducted reassessment occurs. The county shall pay the bill under the procedures prescribed by subsection ~~(j)~~ (i).

~~(j)~~ (i) A county subject to an order issued under this section shall pay the cost of a contract described in subsection ~~(g)~~, (f), without appropriation, from the county property reassessment fund. A contractor may periodically submit bills for partial payment of work performed under the contract. Notwithstanding any other law, a contractor is entitled to payment under this subsection for work performed under a contract if the contractor:

- (1) submits to the department a fully itemized, certified bill in the form required by IC 5-11-10-1 for the costs of the work performed under the contract;
- (2) obtains from the department:
 - (A) approval of the form and amount of the bill; and
 - (B) a certification that the billed goods and services have been received and comply with the contract; and

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(3) files with the county auditor:

- (A) a duplicate copy of the bill submitted to the department;
- (B) proof of the department's approval of the form and amount of the bill; and
- (C) the department's certification that the billed goods and services have been received and comply with the contract.

The department's approval and certification of a bill under subdivision (2) shall be treated as conclusively resolving the merits of a contractor's claim. Upon receipt of the documentation described in subdivision (3), the county auditor shall immediately certify that the bill is true and correct without further audit, publish the claim as required by IC 36-2-6-3, and submit the claim to the county executive. The county executive shall allow the claim, in full, as approved by the department, without further examination of the merits of the claim in a regular or special session that is held not less than three (3) days and not more than seven (7) days after the completion of the publication requirements under IC 36-2-6-3. Upon allowance of the claim by the county executive, the county auditor shall immediately issue a warrant or check for the full amount of the claim approved by the department. Compliance with this subsection constitutes compliance with IC 5-11-6-1, IC 5-11-10, and IC 36-2-6. The determination and payment of a claim in compliance with this subsection is not subject to remonstrance and appeal. IC 36-2-6-4(f) and IC 36-2-6-9 do not apply to a claim submitted under this subsection. IC 5-11-10-1.6(d) applies to a fiscal officer who pays a claim in compliance with this subsection.

~~(k)~~ (j) Notwithstanding IC 4-13-2, a period of seven (7) days is permitted for each of the following to review and act under IC 4-13-2 on a contract of the department entered into under this section:

- (1) The commissioner of the Indiana department of administration.
- (2) The director of the budget agency.
- (3) The attorney general.

~~(h)~~ (k) If money in the county's property reassessment fund is insufficient to pay for an assessment or reassessment conducted under this section, the department may increase the tax rate and tax levy of the county's property reassessment fund to pay the cost and expenses related to the assessment or reassessment.

~~(m)~~ (l) The department or the contractor of the department shall use the land values determined under section 13.6 of this chapter for a county subject to an order issued under this section to the extent that the department or the contractor finds that the land values reflect the true tax value of land, as determined under this article and the rules of

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the department. If the department or the contractor finds that the land values determined for the county under section 13.6 of this chapter do not reflect the true tax value of land, the department or the contractor shall determine land values for the county that reflect the true tax value of land, as determined under this article and the rules of the department. Land values determined under this subsection shall be used to the same extent as if the land values had been determined under section 13.6 of this chapter. The department or the contractor of the department shall notify the county's ~~assessment~~ **assessing** officials of the land values determined under this subsection.

~~(n)~~ **(m)** A contractor of the department may notify the department if:

(1) a county auditor fails to:

(A) certify the contractor's bill;

(B) publish the contractor's claim;

(C) submit the contractor's claim to the county executive; or

(D) issue a warrant or check for payment of the contractor's bill;

as required by subsection ~~(j)~~ **(i)** at the county auditor's first legal opportunity to do so;

(2) a county executive fails to allow the contractor's claim as legally required by subsection ~~(j)~~ **(i)** at the county executive's first legal opportunity to do so; or

(3) a person or an entity authorized to act on behalf of the county takes or fails to take an action, including failure to request an appropriation, and that action or failure to act delays or halts progress under this section for payment of the contractor's bill.

~~(o)~~ **(n)** The department, upon receiving notice under subsection ~~(n)~~ **(m)** from a contractor of the department, shall:

(1) verify the accuracy of the contractor's assertion in the notice that:

(A) a failure occurred as described in subsection ~~(n)(1)~~ **(m)(1)**

or ~~(n)(2)~~ **(m)(2)**; or

(B) a person or an entity acted or failed to act as described in subsection ~~(n)(3)~~ **(m)(3)**; and

(2) provide to the treasurer of state the department's approval under subsection ~~(j)(2)(A)~~ **(i)(2)(A)** of the contractor's bill with respect to which the contractor gave notice under subsection ~~(n)~~ **(m)**.

~~(p)~~ **(o)** Upon receipt of the department's approval of a contractor's bill under subsection ~~(o)~~ **(n)**, the treasurer of state shall pay the contractor the amount of the bill approved by the department from

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money in the possession of the state that would otherwise be available for distribution to the county, including distributions from the property tax replacement fund or distribution of admissions taxes or wagering taxes.

~~(q)~~ (p) The treasurer of state shall withhold from the money that would be distributed under IC 4-33-12-6, IC 4-33-13-5, IC 6-1.1-21-4(b), or any other law to a county described in a notice provided under subsection ~~(n)~~ (m) the amount of a payment made by the treasurer of state to the contractor of the department under subsection ~~(p)~~ (o). Money shall be withheld first from the money payable to the county under IC 6-1.1-21-4(b) and then from all other sources payable to the county.

~~(r)~~ (q) Compliance with subsections ~~(n)~~ (m) through ~~(q)~~ (p) constitutes compliance with IC 5-11-10.

~~(s)~~ (r) IC 5-11-10-1.6(d) applies to the treasurer of state with respect to the payment made in compliance with subsections ~~(n)~~ (m) through ~~(q)~~ (p). This subsection and subsections ~~(n)~~ (m) through ~~(q)~~ (p) must be interpreted liberally so that the state shall, to the extent legally valid, ensure that the contractual obligations of a county subject to this section are paid. Nothing in this section shall be construed to create a debt of the state.

~~(t)~~ (s) The provisions of this section are severable as provided in IC 1-1-1-8(b).

SECTION 44. IC 6-1.1-4-31.6, AS ADDED BY P.L.228-2005, SECTION 13, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 31.6. (a) Subject to the other requirements of this section, the department of local government finance may:

(1) negotiate an addendum to a contract referred to in ~~section 31.5(g)~~ **section 31.5(f)** of this chapter that is treated as a contract of the department; or

(2) include provisions in a contract entered into by the department under ~~section 31.5(g)~~ **section 31.5(f)** of this chapter;

to require the contractor of the department to represent the department in appeals initiated under section 31.7 of this chapter and to afford to taxpayers an opportunity to attend an informal hearing.

(b) The purpose of the informal hearing referred to in subsection (a) is to:

(1) discuss the specifics of the taxpayer's assessment or reassessment;

(2) review the taxpayer's property record card;

(3) explain to the taxpayer how the assessment or reassessment was determined;

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(4) provide to the taxpayer information about the statutes, rules, and guidelines that govern the determination of the assessment or reassessment;

(5) note and consider objections of the taxpayer;

(6) consider all errors alleged by the taxpayer; and

(7) otherwise educate the taxpayer about:

(A) the taxpayer's assessment or reassessment;

(B) the assessment or reassessment process; and

(C) the assessment or reassessment appeal process under section 31.7 of this chapter.

(c) Following an informal hearing referred to in subsection (b), the contractor shall:

(1) make a recommendation to the department of local government finance as to whether a change in the reassessment is warranted; and

(2) if recommending a change under subdivision (1), provide to the department a statement of:

(A) how the changed assessment or reassessment was determined; and

(B) the amount of the changed assessment or reassessment.

(d) To preserve the right to appeal under section 31.7 of this chapter, a taxpayer must initiate the informal hearing process by notifying the department of local government finance or its designee of the taxpayer's intent to participate in an informal hearing referred to in subsection (b) not later than forty-five (45) days after the department of local government finance gives notice under ~~section 31.5(h)~~ **section 31.5(g)** of this chapter to taxpayers of the amount of the reassessment.

(e) The informal hearings referred to in subsection (b) must be conducted:

(1) in the county where the property is located; and

(2) in a manner determined by the department of local government finance.

(f) The department of local government finance shall:

(1) consider the recommendation of the contractor under subsection (c); and

(2) if the department accepts a recommendation that a change in the assessment or reassessment is warranted, accept or modify the recommended amount of the changed assessment or reassessment.

(g) The department of local government finance shall send a notice of the result of each informal hearing to:

(1) the taxpayer;

(2) the county auditor; **and**

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(3) the county assessor. ~~and~~

~~(4) the township assessor of the township in which the property is located.~~

(h) A notice under subsection (g) must:

(1) state whether the assessment or reassessment was changed as a result of the informal hearing; and

(2) if the assessment or reassessment was changed as a result of the informal hearing:

(A) indicate the amount of the changed assessment or reassessment; and

(B) provide information on the taxpayer's right to appeal under section 31.7 of this chapter.

(i) If the department of local government finance does not send a notice under subsection (g) not later than two hundred seventy (270) days after the date the department gives notice of the amount of the assessment or reassessment under ~~section 31.5(h)~~ **section 31.5(g)** of this chapter:

(1) the department may not change the amount of the assessment or reassessment under the informal hearing process described in this section; and

(2) the taxpayer may appeal the assessment or reassessment under section 31.7 of this chapter.

(j) The department of local government finance may adopt rules to establish procedures for informal hearings under this section.

(k) Payment for an addendum to a contract under subsection (a)(1) is made in the same manner as payment for the contract under ~~section 31.5(i)~~ **section 31.5(h)** of this chapter.

SECTION 45. IC 6-1.1-4-31.7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.219-2007, SECTION 15, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 31.7. (a) As used in this section, "special master" refers to a person designated by the Indiana board under subsection (e).

(b) The notice of assessment or reassessment under ~~section 31.5(h)~~ **section 31.5(g)** of this chapter is subject to appeal by the taxpayer to the Indiana board. The procedures and time limitations that apply to an appeal to the Indiana board of a determination of the department of local government finance do not apply to an appeal under this subsection. The Indiana board may establish applicable procedures and time limitations under subsection (l).

(c) In order to appeal under subsection (b), the taxpayer must:

(1) participate in the informal hearing process under section 31.6 of this chapter;

(2) except as provided in section 31.6(i) of this chapter, receive

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a notice under section 31.6(g) of this chapter; and

(3) file a petition for review with the appropriate county assessor not later than thirty (30) days after:

(A) the date of the notice to the taxpayer under section 31.6(g) of this chapter; or

(B) the date after which the department may not change the amount of the assessment or reassessment under the informal hearing process described in section 31.6 of this chapter.

(d) The Indiana board may develop a form for petitions under subsection (c) that outlines:

(1) the appeal process;

(2) the burden of proof; and

(3) evidence necessary to warrant a change to an assessment or reassessment.

(e) The Indiana board may contract with, appoint, or otherwise designate the following to serve as special masters to conduct evidentiary hearings and prepare reports required under subsection (g):

(1) Independent, licensed appraisers.

(2) Attorneys.

(3) Certified level two or level three Indiana assessor-appraisers (including administrative law judges employed by the Indiana board).

(4) Other qualified individuals.

(f) Each contract entered into under subsection (e) must specify the appointee's compensation and entitlement to reimbursement for expenses. The compensation and reimbursement for expenses are paid from the county property reassessment fund.

(g) With respect to each petition for review filed under subsection (c), the special masters shall:

(1) set a hearing date;

(2) give notice of the hearing at least thirty (30) days before the hearing date, by mail, to:

(A) the taxpayer;

(B) the department of local government finance;

~~(C) the township assessor;~~ and

~~(D)~~ (C) the county assessor;

(3) conduct a hearing and hear all evidence submitted under this section; and

(4) make evidentiary findings and file a report with the Indiana board.

(h) At the hearing under subsection (g):

(1) the taxpayer shall present:

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- 1 (A) the taxpayer's evidence that the assessment or
 2 reassessment is incorrect;
 3 (B) the method by which the taxpayer contends the assessment
 4 or reassessment should be correctly determined; and
 5 (C) comparable sales, appraisals, or other pertinent
 6 information concerning valuation as required by the Indiana
 7 board; and
 8 (2) the department of local government finance shall present its
 9 evidence that the assessment or reassessment is correct.
 10 (i) The Indiana board may dismiss a petition for review filed under
 11 subsection (c) if the evidence and other information required under
 12 subsection (h)(1) is not provided at the hearing under subsection (g).
 13 (j) The ~~township~~ ~~assessor and the~~ county assessor may attend and
 14 participate in the hearing under subsection (g).
 15 (k) The Indiana board may:
 16 (1) consider the report of the special masters under subsection
 17 (g)(4);
 18 (2) make a final determination based on the findings of the special
 19 masters without:
 20 (A) conducting a hearing; or
 21 (B) any further proceedings; and
 22 (3) incorporate the findings of the special masters into the board's
 23 findings in resolution of the appeal.
 24 (l) The Indiana board may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2-37.1 to:
 25 (1) establish procedures to expedite:
 26 (A) the conduct of hearings under subsection (g); and
 27 (B) the issuance of determinations of appeals under subsection
 28 (k); and
 29 (2) establish deadlines:
 30 (A) for conducting hearings under subsection (g); and
 31 (B) for issuing determinations of appeals under subsection (k).
 32 (m) A determination by the Indiana board of an appeal under
 33 subsection (k) is subject to appeal to the tax court under IC 6-1.1-15.
 34 SECTION 46. IC 6-1.1-4-39, AS AMENDED BY P.L.199-2005,
 35 SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 36 JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 39. (a) For assessment dates after February 28,
 37 2005, except as provided in subsections (c) and (e), the true tax value
 38 of real property regularly used to rent or otherwise furnish residential
 39 accommodations for periods of thirty (30) days or more and that has
 40 more than four (4) rental units is the lowest valuation determined by
 41 applying each of the following appraisal approaches:
 42 (1) Cost approach that includes an estimated reproduction or

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replacement cost of buildings and land improvements as of the date of valuation together with estimates of the losses in value that have taken place due to wear and tear, design and plan, or neighborhood influences.

(2) Sales comparison approach, using data for generally comparable property.

(3) Income capitalization approach, using an applicable capitalization method and appropriate capitalization rates that are developed and used in computations that lead to an indication of value commensurate with the risks for the subject property use.

(b) The gross rent multiplier method is the preferred method of valuing:

(1) real property that has at least one (1) and not more than four

(4) rental units; and

(2) mobile homes assessed under IC 6-1.1-7.

(c) A ~~township~~ **county** assessor is not required to appraise real property referred to in subsection (a) using the three (3) appraisal approaches listed in subsection (a) if the ~~township~~ assessor and the taxpayer agree before notice of the assessment is given to the taxpayer under section 22 of this chapter to the determination of the true tax value of the property by the assessor using one (1) of those appraisal approaches.

(d) To carry out this section, the department of local government finance may adopt rules for assessors to use in gathering and processing information for the application of the income capitalization method and the gross rent multiplier method. A taxpayer must verify under penalties for perjury any information provided to the **county** assessor for use in the application of either method.

(e) The true tax value of low income rental property (as defined in section 41 of this chapter) is not determined under subsection (a). The assessment method prescribed in section 41 of this chapter is the exclusive method for assessment of that property. This subsection does not impede any rights to appeal an assessment.

SECTION 47. IC 6-1.1-4-39.5, AS ADDED BY P.L.233-2007, SECTION 22, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 39.5. (a) As used in this section, "qualified real property" means a riverboat (as defined in IC 4-33-2-17).

(b) Except as provided in subsection (c), the true tax value of qualified real property is the lowest valuation determined by applying each of the following appraisal approaches:

(1) Cost approach that includes an estimated reproduction or replacement cost of buildings and land improvements as of the

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1 date of valuation together with estimates of the losses in value
 2 that have taken place due to wear and tear, design and plan, or
 3 neighborhood influences using base prices determined under 50
 4 IAC 2.3 and associated guidelines published by the department.

5 (2) Sales comparison approach, using data for generally
 6 comparable property, excluding values attributable to licenses,
 7 fees, or personal property as determined under 50 IAC 4.2.

8 (3) Income capitalization approach, using an applicable
 9 capitalization method and appropriate capitalization rates that are
 10 developed and used in computations that lead to an indication of
 11 value commensurate with the risks for the subject property use.

12 (c) A ~~township~~ **county** assessor is not required to appraise qualified
 13 real property using the three (3) appraisal approaches listed in
 14 subsection (b) if the ~~township~~ **county** assessor and the taxpayer agree
 15 before notice of the assessment is given to the taxpayer under section
 16 22 of this chapter to the determination of the true tax value of the
 17 property by the assessor using one (1) of those appraisal approaches.

18 (d) To carry out this section, the department of local government
 19 finance may adopt rules for assessors to use in gathering and
 20 processing information for the application of the income capitalization
 21 method. A taxpayer must verify under penalties for perjury any
 22 information provided to the assessor for use in the application of the
 23 income capitalization method.

24 SECTION 48. IC 6-1.1-5-8 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 25 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 8. Except as provided
 26 in section 9 of this chapter, the county auditor of each county shall
 27 annually prepare and deliver to the ~~township~~ **county** assessor a list of
 28 all real property entered in the ~~township~~ **county** as of the assessment
 29 date. The county auditor shall deliver the list within thirty (30) days
 30 after the assessment date. The county auditor shall prepare the list in
 31 the form prescribed or approved by the department of local government
 32 finance.

33 SECTION 49. IC 6-1.1-5-9 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 34 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 9. Except as provided
 35 in section 4(b) of this chapter, ~~for all civil townships in which in a~~
 36 **county containing** a consolidated city, ~~is situated, the township~~ **county**
 37 assessor has the duties and authority described in sections 1 through 8
 38 of this chapter. These duties and authority include effecting the transfer
 39 of title to real property and preparing, maintaining, approving,
 40 correcting, indexing, and publishing the list or record of, or description
 41 of title to, real property. If a court renders a judgment for the partition
 42 or transfer of real property located in ~~one (1) of these townships, a~~

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1 **county containing a consolidated city**, the clerk of the court shall
 2 deliver the transcript to the ~~township~~ **county** assessor.

3 SECTION 50. IC 6-1.1-5-9.1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 4 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 9.1. (a) Except:

5 (1) as provided in subsection (b); and

6 (2) for civil townships described in section 9 of this chapter;
 7 and notwithstanding the provisions of sections 1 through 8 of this
 8 chapter, for all other civil townships having a population of thirty-five
 9 thousand (35,000) or more, for a civil township that falls below a
 10 population of thirty-five thousand (35,000) at a federal decennial
 11 census that takes effect after December 31, 2001, and for all other civil
 12 townships in which a city of the second class is located, the ~~township~~
 13 **county** assessor shall make the real property lists and the plats
 14 described in sections 1 through 8 of this chapter.

15 (b) In a civil township that attains a population of thirty-five
 16 thousand (35,000) or more at a federal decennial census that takes
 17 effect after December 31, 2001, the county auditor shall make the real
 18 property lists and the plats described in sections 1 through 8 of this
 19 chapter unless the ~~township~~ **county** assessor determines to assume the
 20 duty from the county auditor.

21 (c) ~~With respect to townships in which the township assessor makes~~
 22 ~~the real property lists and the plats described in sections 1 through 8 of~~
 23 ~~this chapter, the county auditor shall, upon completing the tax~~
 24 ~~duplicate, return the real property lists to the township assessor for the~~
 25 ~~continuation of the lists by the assessor. If land located in one (1) of~~
 26 ~~these townships is platted, the plat shall be presented to the township~~
 27 ~~assessor instead of the county auditor, before it is recorded. The~~
 28 ~~township assessor shall then enter the lots or parcels described in the~~
 29 ~~plat on the tax lists in lieu of the land included in the plat.~~

30 SECTION 51. IC 6-1.1-5-10 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 31 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 10. If a ~~township~~
 32 **county** assessor believes that it is necessary to obtain an accurate
 33 description of a specific lot or tract, ~~which is situated in the township~~
 34 ~~he serves~~, the assessor may demand in writing that the owner or
 35 occupant of the lot or tract deliver all the title papers in ~~his~~ **the owner's**
 36 **or occupant's** possession to the assessor for ~~his~~ **the assessor's**
 37 examination. If the person fails to deliver the title papers to the assessor
 38 at ~~his~~ **the assessor's** office within five (5) days after the demand is
 39 mailed, the assessor shall prepare the real property list according to the
 40 best information ~~he~~ **the assessor** can obtain. For that purpose, the
 41 assessor may examine, under oath, any person whom ~~he~~ **the assessor**
 42 believes has any knowledge relevant to the issue.

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SECTION 52. IC 6-1.1-5-11 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 11. (a) In order to determine the quantity of land contained within a tract, an assessor shall follow the rules contained in this section.

(b) Except as provided in subsection (c), ~~of this section~~, the assessor shall recognize the quantity of land stated in a deed or patent if the owner or person in whose name the property is listed holds the land by virtue of:

- (1) a deed from another party or from this state; or
- (2) a patent from the United States.

(c) If land described in subsection (b) ~~of this section~~ has been surveyed subsequent to the survey made by the United States and if the **township county** assessor is satisfied that the tract contains a different quantity of land than is stated in the patent or deed, the assessor shall recognize the quantity of land stated in the subsequent survey.

(d) Except as provided in ~~subsection (c) of this section~~, **subsection (f)**, a **township county** assessor shall demand in writing that the owner of a tract, or person in whose name the land is listed, have the tract surveyed and that ~~he~~ **the owner or person in whose name the land is listed** return a sworn certificate from the surveyor stating the quantity of land contained in the tract if:

- (1) the land was within the French or Clark's grant; and
- (2) the party holds the land under original entry or survey.

(e) If the party fails to return the certificate **under subsection (d)** within thirty (30) days after the demand is mailed, the assessor shall have a surveyor survey the land. The expenses of a survey made under this subsection shall be paid for from the county treasury. However, the county auditor shall charge the survey expenses against the land, and the expenses shall be collected with the taxes payable in the succeeding year.

~~(e)~~ **(f)** A **township county** assessor shall not demand a survey of land described in subsection (d) ~~of this section~~ if:

- (1) the owner or holder of the land has previously had it surveyed and presents to the assessor a survey certificate which states the quantity of land; or
- (2) the assessor is satisfied from other competent evidence, given under oath or affirmation, that the quantity of land stated in the original survey is correct.

SECTION 53. IC 6-1.1-5-14, AS AMENDED BY P.L.88-2005, SECTION 9, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 14. ~~Not later than May 15, each assessing official shall prepare and deliver to the county assessor a detailed list of the~~

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1 ~~real property listed for taxation in the township.~~ On or before July 1 of
 2 each year, each county assessor shall, under oath, prepare and deliver
 3 to the county auditor a detailed list of the real property listed for
 4 taxation in the county. ~~In a county with an elected township assessor in~~
 5 ~~every township the township assessor shall prepare the real property~~
 6 ~~list.~~ The assessing officials and the county assessor shall prepare the
 7 list in the form prescribed by the department of local government
 8 finance. ~~The township assessor shall ensure that the county assessor~~
 9 ~~has full access to the assessment records maintained by the township~~
 10 ~~assessor.~~

11 SECTION 54. IC 6-1.1-5-15, AS AMENDED BY P.L.228-2005,
 12 SECTION 15, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 13 JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 15. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b),
 14 before an owner of real property demolishes, structurally modifies, or
 15 improves it at a cost of more than five hundred dollars (\$500) for
 16 materials or labor, or both, the owner or the owner's agent shall file
 17 with the area plan commission or the county assessor in the county
 18 where the property is located an assessment registration notice on a
 19 form prescribed by the department of local government finance.

20 (b) If the owner of the real property, or the person performing the
 21 work for the owner, is required to obtain a permit from an agency or
 22 official of the state or a political subdivision for the demolition,
 23 structural modification, or improvement, the owner or the person
 24 performing the work for the owner is not required to file an assessment
 25 registration notice.

26 (c) Each state or local government official or agency shall, before
 27 the tenth day of each month, deliver a copy of each permit described in
 28 subsection (b) to the assessor of the county in which the real property
 29 to be improved is situated. Each area plan commission shall, before the
 30 tenth day of each month, deliver a copy of each assessment registration
 31 notice described in subsection (a) to the assessor of the county where
 32 the property is located.

33 ~~(d) Before the last day of each month, the county assessor shall~~
 34 ~~distribute a copy of each assessment registration notice filed under~~
 35 ~~subsection (a) or permit received under subsection (b) to the assessor~~
 36 ~~of the township in which the real property to be demolished, modified,~~
 37 ~~or improved is situated.~~

38 ~~(e)~~ (d) A fee of five dollars (\$5) shall be charged by the area plan
 39 commission or the county assessor for the filing of the assessment
 40 registration notice. All fees collected under this subsection shall be
 41 deposited in the county property reassessment fund.

42 ~~(f)~~ (e) A township or county assessor shall immediately notify the

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1 county treasurer if the assessor discovers property that has been
 2 improved or structurally modified at a cost of more than five hundred
 3 dollars (\$500) and the owner of the property has failed to obtain the
 4 required building permit or to file an assessment registration notice.

5 ~~(g)~~ **(f)** Any person who fails to:

6 (1) file the registration notice required by subsection (a); or

7 (2) obtain a building permit described in subsection (b);

8 before demolishing, structurally modifying, or improving real property
 9 is subject to a civil penalty of one hundred dollars (\$100). The county
 10 treasurer shall include the penalty on the person's property tax
 11 statement and collect it in the same manner as delinquent personal
 12 property taxes under IC 6-1.1-23. However, if a person files a late
 13 registration notice, the person shall pay the fee, if any, and the penalty
 14 to the area plan commission or the county assessor at the time the
 15 person files the late registration notice.

16 SECTION 55. IC 6-1.1-5.5-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.219-2007,
 17 SECTION 16, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 18 JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 3. (a) For purposes of this section, "party"
 19 includes:

20 (1) a seller of property that is exempt under the seller's ownership;

21 or

22 (2) a purchaser of property that is exempt under the purchaser's
 23 ownership;

24 from property taxes under IC 6-1.1-10.

25 (b) Before filing a conveyance document with the county auditor
 26 under IC 6-1.1-5-4, all the parties to the conveyance must do the
 27 following:

28 (1) Complete and sign a sales disclosure form as prescribed by the
 29 department of local government finance under section 5 of this
 30 chapter. All the parties may sign one (1) form, or if all the parties
 31 do not agree on the information to be included on the completed
 32 form, each party may sign and file a separate form.

33 (2) Before filing a sales disclosure form with the county auditor,
 34 submit the sales disclosure form to the county assessor. The
 35 county assessor must review the accuracy and completeness of
 36 each sales disclosure form submitted immediately upon receipt of
 37 the form and, if the form is accurate and complete, stamp the form
 38 as eligible for filing with the county auditor and return the form
 39 to the appropriate party for filing with the county auditor. If
 40 multiple forms are filed in a short period, the county assessor
 41 shall process the forms as quickly as possible. For purposes of this
 42 subdivision, a sales disclosure form is considered to be accurate

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and complete if:

(A) the county assessor does not have substantial evidence when the form is reviewed under this subdivision that information in the form is inaccurate; and

(B) the form:

(i) substantially conforms to the sales disclosure form prescribed by the department of local government finance under section 5 of this chapter; and

(ii) is submitted to the county assessor in a format usable to the county assessor.

(3) File the sales disclosure form with the county auditor.

(c) ~~Except as provided in subsection (d),~~ The auditor shall forward each sales disclosure form to the county assessor. The county assessor shall retain the forms for five (5) years. The county assessor shall forward the sales disclosure form data to the department of local government finance and the legislative services agency in an electronic format specified jointly by the department of local government finance and the legislative services agency. ~~The county assessor shall forward a copy of the sales disclosure forms to the township assessors in the county.~~ The forms may be used by the county assessing officials, the department of local government finance, and the legislative services agency for the purposes established in IC 6-1.1-4-13.6, sales ratio studies, equalization, adoption of rules under IC 6-1.1-31-3 and IC 6-1.1-31-6, and any other authorized purpose.

~~(d) In a county containing a consolidated city, the auditor shall forward the sales disclosure form to the appropriate township assessor. The township assessor shall forward the sales disclosure form to the department of local government finance and the legislative services agency in an electronic format specified jointly by the department of local government finance and the legislative services agency. The forms may be used by the county assessing officials, the department of local government finance, and the legislative services agency for the purposes established in IC 6-1.1-4-13.6, sales ratio studies, equalization, adoption of rules under IC 6-1.1-31-3 and IC 6-1.1-31-6, and any other authorized purpose.~~

~~(e)~~ (d) If a sales disclosure form includes the telephone number or Social Security number of a party, the telephone number or Social Security number is confidential.

~~(f)~~ (e) County assessing officials and other local officials may not establish procedures or requirements concerning sales disclosure forms that substantially differ from the procedures and requirements of this chapter.

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SECTION 56. IC 6-1.1-5.5-12 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 12. (a) A party to a conveyance who:

(1) is required to file a sales disclosure form under this chapter; and

(2) fails to file a sales disclosure form at the time and in the manner required by this chapter;

is subject to a penalty in the amount determined under subsection (b).

(b) The amount of the penalty under subsection (a) is the greater of:

(1) one hundred dollars (\$100); or

(2) twenty-five thousandths percent (0.025%) of the sale price of the real property transferred under the conveyance document.

(c) ~~The township assessor in a county containing a consolidated city, or the county assessor in any other county,~~ shall:

(1) determine the penalty imposed under this section;

(2) assess the penalty to the party to a conveyance; and

(3) notify the party to the conveyance that the penalty is payable not later than thirty (30) days after notice of the assessment.

(d) The county auditor shall:

(1) collect the penalty imposed under this section;

(2) deposit penalty collections as required under section 4 of this chapter; and

(3) notify the county prosecuting attorney of delinquent payments.

(e) The county prosecuting attorney shall initiate an action to recover a delinquent penalty under this section. In a successful action against a person for a delinquent penalty, the court shall award the county prosecuting attorney reasonable attorney's fees.

SECTION 57. IC 6-1.1-7-3 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 3. A person who permits a mobile home to be placed on any land which ~~he~~ **the person** owns, possesses, or controls shall report that fact to the **county** assessor of the ~~township~~ **county** in which the land is located within ten (10) days after the mobile home is placed on the land. The ten (10) day period commences the day after the day that the mobile home is placed upon the land.

SECTION 58. IC 6-1.1-7-5 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 5. A mobile home which is subject to taxation under this chapter shall be assessed by the **county** assessor of the ~~township~~ **county** within which the place of assessment is located. Each ~~township~~ **county** assessor ~~of a county~~ shall certify the assessments of mobile homes to the county auditor in the same manner provided for the certification of personal property

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assessments. The township **or county** assessor shall make this certification on the forms prescribed by the department of local government finance.

SECTION 59. IC 6-1.1-8-23 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 23. Each year a public utility company shall file a statement with the ~~assessor of each township and~~ county assessor of each county in which the company's property is located. The company shall file the statement on the form prescribed by the department of local government finance. The statement shall contain a description of the company's tangible personal property located in the ~~township~~ **county**.

SECTION 60. IC 6-1.1-8-24, AS AMENDED BY P.L.88-2005, SECTION 10, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 24. ~~(a)~~ Each year ~~a township~~ **the county** assessor shall:

(1) assess the fixed property ~~which that~~ as of the assessment date of that year is:

~~(1)~~ (A) owned or used by a public utility company; and

~~(2)~~ (B) located in ~~the each~~ township ~~in the township~~ assessor serves: **county**; and

(b) ~~The township assessor shall determine the assessed value of fixed property. The A township assessor shall certify the assessed values to the county assessor on or before April 1 of the year of assessment. However, in a county with an elected township assessor in every township the township assessor shall certify the list to the department of local government finance. The county assessor shall review the assessed values and shall~~

(2) certify the assessed values to the department of local government finance on or before April 10 of ~~the that~~ year. ~~of assessment.~~

SECTION 61. IC 6-1.1-8-33 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 33. A public utility company may appeal a ~~township~~ **county** assessor's assessment of fixed property in the same manner that it may appeal a ~~township~~ **county** assessor's assessment of tangible property under ~~IC 6-1.1-15.~~

SECTION 62. IC 6-1.1-8-39 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 39. The annual assessments of a public utility company's property are presumed to include all the company's property which is subject to taxation under this chapter. However, this presumption does not preclude the subsequent assessment of a specific item of tangible property which is clearly shown to have been omitted from the assessments for that year.

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The ~~appropriate township~~ **county** assessor shall make assessments of omitted fixed property. The department of local government finance shall make assessments of omitted distributable property. However, the department of local government finance may not assess omitted distributable property after the expiration of ten (10) years from the last day of the year in which the assessment should have been made.

SECTION 63. IC 6-1.1-8.5-7 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 7. (a) The ~~township~~ **county** assessor of each ~~township~~ in a qualifying county shall notify the department of local government finance of a newly constructed industrial facility that is located in the ~~township served by the township assessor.~~ **county.**

(b) Each building commissioner in a qualifying county shall notify the department of local government finance of a newly constructed industrial facility that is located in the jurisdiction served by the building commissioner.

(c) The department of local government finance shall schedule an assessment under this chapter of a newly constructed industrial facility within six (6) months after receiving notice of the construction ~~from the appropriate township assessor or building commissioner.~~ **under this section.**

SECTION 64. IC 6-1.1-9-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.219-2007, SECTION 23, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 1. If a ~~township assessor~~ county assessor or county property tax assessment board of appeals believes that any taxable tangible property has been omitted from or undervalued on the assessment rolls or the tax duplicate for any year or years, the official or board shall give written notice under IC 6-1.1-3-20 or IC 6-1.1-4-22 of the assessment or increase in assessment. The notice shall contain a general description of the property and a statement describing the taxpayer's right to a review with the county property tax assessment board of appeals under IC 6-1.1-15-1.

SECTION 65. IC 6-1.1-9-6 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 6. ~~The county assessor shall obtain from the county auditor or the township assessors all returns for tangible property made by the township assessors of the county and all assessment lists, schedules, statements, maps, and other books and papers filed with the county auditor by the township assessors.~~ For purposes of discovering undervalued or omitted property, the county assessor shall carefully examine the county tax duplicates and all other pertinent records and papers of the county auditor, treasurer, recorder, clerk, sheriff, and surveyor. The county

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assessor shall, in the manner prescribed in this article, assess all omitted or undervalued tangible property which is subject to assessment.

SECTION 66. IC 6-1.1-10-10 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 10. (a) The owner of an industrial waste control facility who wishes to obtain the exemption provided in section 9 of this chapter shall file an exemption claim **along** with the ~~assessor of the township in which the property is located~~ **when he files his owner's** annual personal property return. The claim shall describe and state the assessed value of the property for which an exemption is claimed.

(b) The owner shall, by registered or certified mail, forward a copy of the exemption claim to the department of environmental management. The department shall acknowledge its receipt of the claim.

(c) The department of environmental management may investigate any claim. The department may also determine if the property for which the exemption is claimed is being utilized as an industrial waste control facility. Within one hundred twenty (120) days after a claim is mailed to the department, the department may certify its written determination to the ~~township~~ **county** assessor with whom the claim was filed.

(d) The determination of the department remains in effect:

(1) as long as the owner owns the property and uses the property as an industrial waste control facility; or

(2) for five (5) years;

whichever is less. In addition, during the five (5) years after the department's determination the owner of the property must notify the ~~township~~ **county** assessor and the department in writing if any of the property on which the department's determination was based is disposed of or removed from service as an industrial waste control facility.

(e) The department may revoke a determination if the department finds that the property is not predominantly used as an industrial waste control facility.

(f) The ~~township~~ **county** assessor, in accord with the determination of the department, shall allow or deny in whole or in part each exemption claim. However, if the owner provides the assessor with proof that a copy of the claim has been mailed to the department, and if the department has not certified a determination to the assessor within one hundred twenty (120) days after the claim has been mailed to the department, the assessor shall allow the total exemption claimed

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by the owner.

(g) The assessor shall reduce the assessed value of the owner's personal property for the year for which an exemption is claimed by the amount of exemption allowed.

SECTION 67. IC 6-1.1-10-13 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 13. (a) The owner of personal property which is part of a stationary or unlicensed mobile air pollution control system who wishes to obtain the exemption provided in section 12 of this chapter shall claim the exemption on ~~his the~~ **owner's** annual personal property return. ~~which he files with the assessor of the township in which the property is located.~~ On the return, the owner shall describe and state the assessed value of the property for which the exemption is claimed.

(b) The ~~township~~ **county** assessor shall:

(1) review the exemption claim; and ~~he shall~~

(2) allow or deny it in whole or in part.

In making ~~his the~~ decision, the ~~township~~ **county** assessor shall consider the requirements stated in section 12 of this chapter.

(c) The ~~township~~ **county** assessor shall reduce the assessed value of the owner's personal property for the year for which the exemption is claimed by the amount of exemption allowed.

SECTION 68. IC 6-1.1-10-14 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 14. The action taken by a ~~township~~ **county** assessor on an exemption claim filed under section 10 or ~~section~~ 13 of this chapter shall be treated as an assessment of personal property. Thus, the assessor's action is subject to all the provisions of this article pertaining to notice, review, or appeal of personal property assessments.

SECTION 69. IC 6-1.1-10-31.7 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 31.7. (a) Subject to subsection (c), in order to claim a property tax exemption under section 31.4, 31.5, or 31.6 of this chapter, the owner or possessor of:

(1) a truck chassis under section 31.4 of this chapter;

(2) a passenger motor vehicle under section 31.5 of this chapter;

or

(3) a school bus body or chassis under section 31.6 of this chapter;

must file a claim for an exemption at the same time that the taxpayer is required to file a personal property tax return.

(b) A claim for exemption under this section must be filed on a form:

(1) prescribed by the department of local government finance; and

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(2) containing the following information:

(A) A description of the property claimed to be exempt in sufficient detail to afford identification of the property.

(B) A statement indicating the ownership and the possession of the property.

(C) The grounds for claiming the exemption.

(D) The full name and address of the applicant.

(E) Any additional information that the department of local government finance may require that is:

(i) reasonably related to the exemption; and

(ii) necessary to determine the exemption.

(c) Notwithstanding subsection (b), an owner or a possessor may claim an exemption for a chassis or vehicle under this section without filing the form required under subsection (b) if:

(1) before March 1 the owner or possessor of the chassis or vehicle identifies the chassis or vehicle, by chassis or vehicle identification number, as a chassis or vehicle to be used to fulfill an order from an out-of-state dealer; and

(2) the owner or possessor of the chassis or vehicle submits with the owner's or possessor's personal property return a list that:

(A) gives the chassis or vehicle identification number of each chassis or vehicle claimed to be exempt under subdivision (1); and

(B) identifies the order from an out-of-state dealer that corresponds to each chassis or vehicle listed.

(d) If, upon the request of ~~the local~~ ~~an~~ assessing official ~~a county assessor, a member of the county property tax assessment board of appeals,~~ or the department of local government finance, the owner or possessor is unable to verify that the chassis or vehicle was used to fulfill the identified order, an exemption claimed under subsection (c) shall be denied.

SECTION 70. IC 6-1.1-10.1-11 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 11. (a) A high impact business that desires to obtain the property tax credit provided by section 10 of this chapter must file a certified credit application, on forms prescribed by the department of local government finance, with the auditor of the county in which the inventory is located. The credit application must be filed on or before May 15 each year. If the high impact business obtains a filing extension under IC 6-1.1-3-7(b) for any year, the application for the year must be filed by the extended due date for that year.

(b) The property tax credit application required by this section must

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1 contain the following information:

- 2 (1) The name of the high impact business owning the inventory.
- 3 (2) A description of the inventory for which a property tax credit
- 4 is claimed in sufficient detail to afford identification.
- 5 (3) The assessed value of the inventory subject to the property tax
- 6 credit.
- 7 (4) Any other information considered necessary by the department
- 8 of local government finance.

9 (c) On verification of the correctness of a property tax credit
 10 application by the ~~assessors county assessor~~ of the ~~townships county~~
 11 in which the inventory is located, the county auditor shall grant the
 12 property tax credit.

13 (d) The property tax credit and the period of the credit provided for
 14 inventory under section 10 of this chapter are not affected by a change
 15 in the ownership of the high impact business if the new owner of the
 16 high impact business owning the inventory:

- 17 (1) continues the business operation of the high impact business
- 18 within the commission's jurisdiction and maintains employment
- 19 levels within the commission's jurisdiction consistent with the
- 20 certification and pledge required under section 9(a) of this
- 21 chapter; and
- 22 (2) files an application in the manner provided by subsections (a)
- 23 and (b).

24 SECTION 71. IC 6-1.1-11-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.219-2007,
 25 SECTION 24, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 26 JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 3. (a) Subject to subsections (e), (f), and (g), an
 27 owner of tangible property who wishes to obtain an exemption from
 28 property taxation shall file a certified application in duplicate with the
 29 county assessor of the county in which the property that is the subject
 30 of the exemption is located. The application must be filed annually on
 31 or before May 15 on forms prescribed by the department of local
 32 government finance. Except as provided in sections 1, 3.5, and 4 of this
 33 chapter, the application applies only for the taxes imposed for the year
 34 for which the application is filed.

35 (b) The authority for signing an exemption application may not be
 36 delegated by the owner of the property to any other person except by
 37 an executed power of attorney.

38 (c) An exemption application which is required under this chapter
 39 shall contain the following information:

- 40 (1) A description of the property claimed to be exempt in
- 41 sufficient detail to afford identification.
- 42 (2) A statement showing the ownership, possession, and use of

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the property.

(3) The grounds for claiming the exemption.

(4) The full name and address of the applicant.

(5) For the year that ends on the assessment date of the property, identification of:

(A) each part of the property used or occupied; and

(B) each part of the property not used or occupied; for one (1) or more exempt purposes under IC 6-1.1-10 during the time the property is used or occupied.

(6) Any additional information which the department of local government finance may require.

(d) A person who signs an exemption application shall attest in writing and under penalties of perjury that, to the best of the person's knowledge and belief, a predominant part of the property claimed to be exempt is not being used or occupied in connection with a trade or business that is not substantially related to the exercise or performance of the organization's exempt purpose.

(e) An owner must file with an application for exemption of real property under subsection (a) or section 5 of this chapter a copy of the **township county** assessor's record kept under IC 6-1.1-4-25(a) that shows the calculation of the assessed value of the real property for the assessment date for which the exemption is claimed. ~~Upon receipt of the exemption application, the county assessor shall examine that record and determine if the real property for which the exemption is claimed is properly assessed. If the county assessor determines that the real property is not properly assessed, the county assessor shall direct the township assessor of the township in which the real property is located to:~~

~~(1) properly assess the real property; and~~

~~(2) notify the county assessor and county auditor of the proper assessment.~~

(f) If the county assessor determines that the applicant has not filed with an application for exemption a copy of the record referred to in subsection (e), the county assessor shall notify the applicant in writing of that requirement. The applicant then has thirty (30) days after the date of the notice to comply with that requirement. The county property tax assessment board of appeals shall deny an application described in this subsection if the applicant does not comply with that requirement within the time permitted under this subsection.

(g) This subsection applies whenever a law requires an exemption to be claimed on or in an application accompanying a personal property tax return. The claim or application may be filed on or with a personal

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property tax return not more than thirty (30) days after the filing date for the personal property tax return, regardless of whether an extension of the filing date has been granted under IC 6-1.1-3-7.

SECTION 72. IC 6-1.1-12-20, AS AMENDED BY P.L.154-2006, SECTION 19, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 20. (a) A property owner who desires to obtain the deduction provided by section 18 of this chapter must file a certified deduction application, on forms prescribed by the department of local government finance, with the auditor of the county in which the rehabilitated property is located. The application may be filed in person or by mail. If mailed, the mailing must be postmarked on or before the last day for filing. Except as provided in subsection (b), the application must be filed before June 11 of the year in which the addition to assessed value is made.

(b) If notice of the addition to assessed value for any year is not given to the property owner before May 11 of that year, the application required by this section may be filed not later than thirty (30) days after the date such a notice is mailed to the property owner at the address shown on the records of the ~~township~~ **county** assessor.

(c) The application required by this section shall contain the following information:

- (1) A description of the property for which a deduction is claimed in sufficient detail to afford identification.
- (2) Statements of the ownership of the property.
- (3) The assessed value of the improvements on the property before rehabilitation.
- (4) The number of dwelling units on the property.
- (5) The number of dwelling units rehabilitated.
- (6) The increase in assessed value resulting from the rehabilitation. ~~and~~
- (7) The amount of deduction claimed.

(d) A deduction application filed under this section is applicable for the year in which the increase in assessed value occurs and for the immediately following four (4) years without any additional application being filed.

(e) On verification of an application by the **county** assessor, ~~of the township in which the property is located~~, the county auditor shall make the deduction.

SECTION 73. IC 6-1.1-12-24, AS AMENDED BY P.L.154-2006, SECTION 20, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 24. (a) A property owner who desires to obtain the deduction provided by section 22 of this chapter must file a certified

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deduction application, on forms prescribed by the department of local government finance, with the auditor of the county in which the property is located. The application may be filed in person or by mail. If mailed, the mailing must be postmarked on or before the last day for filing. Except as provided in subsection (b), the application must be filed before June 11 of the year in which the addition to assessed valuation is made.

(b) If notice of the addition to assessed valuation for any year is not given to the property owner before May 11 of that year, the application required by this section may be filed not later than thirty (30) days after the date such a notice is mailed to the property owner at the address shown on the records of the ~~township~~ **county** assessor.

(c) The application required by this section shall contain the following information:

- (1) The name of the property owner.
- (2) A description of the property for which a deduction is claimed in sufficient detail to afford identification.
- (3) The assessed value of the improvements on the property before rehabilitation.
- (4) The increase in the assessed value of improvements resulting from the rehabilitation. ~~and~~
- (5) The amount of deduction claimed.

(d) A deduction application filed under this section is applicable for the year in which the addition to assessed value is made and in the immediate following four (4) years without any additional application being filed.

(e) On verification of an application by the **county** assessor, ~~of the township in which the property is located~~, the county auditor shall make the deduction.

SECTION 74. IC 6-1.1-12-27.1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.183-2007, SECTION 7, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 27.1. Except as provided in section 36 of this chapter, a person who desires to claim the deduction provided by section 26 of this chapter must file a certified statement in duplicate, on forms prescribed by the department of local government finance, with the auditor of the county in which the real property or mobile home is subject to assessment. With respect to real property, the person must file the statement during the twelve (12) months before June 11 of each year for which the person desires to obtain the deduction. With respect to a mobile home which is not assessed as real property, the person must file the statement during the twelve (12) months before March 31 of each year for which the person desires to obtain the

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deduction. The statement may be filed in person or by mail. If mailed, the mailing must be postmarked on or before the last day for filing. On verification of the statement by the **county** assessor of the ~~township~~ **county** in which the real property or mobile home is subject to assessment, the county auditor shall allow the deduction.

SECTION 75. IC 6-1.1-12-28.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.137-2007, SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 28.5. (a) For purposes of this section:

(1) "Hazardous waste" has the meaning set forth in IC 13-11-2-99(a) and includes a waste determined to be a hazardous waste under IC 13-22-2-3(b).

(2) "Resource recovery system" means tangible property directly used to dispose of solid waste or hazardous waste by converting it into energy or other useful products.

(3) "Solid waste" has the meaning set forth in IC 13-11-2-205(a) but does not include dead animals or any animal solid or semisolid wastes.

(b) Except as provided in this section, the owner of a resource recovery system is entitled to an annual deduction in an amount equal to ninety-five percent (95%) of the assessed value of the system if:

(1) the system was certified by the department of environmental management for the 1993 assessment year or a prior assessment year; and

(2) the owner filed a timely application for the deduction for the 1993 assessment year.

For purposes of this section, a system includes tangible property that replaced tangible property in the system after the certification by the department of environmental management.

(c) The owner of a resource recovery system that is directly used to dispose of hazardous waste is not entitled to the deduction provided by this section for a particular assessment year if during that assessment year the owner:

(1) is convicted of any violation under IC 13-7-13-3 (repealed), IC 13-7-13-4 (repealed), or a criminal statute under IC 13; or

(2) is subject to an order or a consent decree with respect to property located in Indiana based upon a violation of a federal or state rule, regulation, or statute governing the treatment, storage, or disposal of hazardous wastes that had a major or moderate potential for harm.

(d) The certification of a resource recovery system by the department of environmental management for the 1993 assessment year or a prior assessment year is valid through the 1997 assessment

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year so long as the property is used as a resource recovery system. If the property is no longer used for the purpose for which the property was used when the property was certified, the owner of the property shall notify the county auditor. However, the deduction from the assessed value of the system is:

- (1) ninety-five percent (95%) for the 1994 assessment year;
- (2) ninety percent (90%) for the 1995 assessment year;
- (3) seventy-five percent (75%) for the 1996 assessment year; and
- (4) sixty percent (60%) for the 1997 assessment year.

Notwithstanding this section as it existed before 1995, for the 1994 assessment year, the portion of any tangible property comprising a resource recovery system that was assessed and first deducted for the 1994 assessment year may not be deducted for property taxes first due and payable in 1995 or later.

(e) In order to qualify for a deduction under this section, the person who desires to claim the deduction must file an application with the county auditor after February 28 and before May 16 of the current assessment year. An application must be filed in each year for which the person desires to obtain the deduction. The application may be filed in person or by mail. If mailed, the mailing must be postmarked on or before the last day for filing. If the application is not filed before the applicable deadline under this subsection, the deduction is waived. The application must be filed on a form prescribed by the department of local government finance. The application for a resource recovery system deduction must include:

- (1) a certification by the department of environmental management for the 1993 assessment year or a prior assessment year as described in subsection (d); or
- (2) the certification by the department of environmental management for the 1993 assessment year as described in subsection (g).

Beginning with the 1995 assessment year a person must also file an itemized list of all property on which a deduction is claimed. The list must include the date of purchase of the property and the cost to acquire the property.

(f) Before July 1, 1995, the department of environmental management shall transfer all the applications, records, or other material the department has with respect to resource recovery system deductions under this section for the 1993 and 1994 assessment years. The ~~township~~ **county** assessor shall verify each deduction application filed under this section and the county auditor shall determine the deduction. The county auditor shall send to the department of local

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1 government finance a copy of each deduction application. The county
 2 auditor shall notify the county property tax assessment board of appeals
 3 of all deductions allowed under this section. A denial of a deduction
 4 claimed under this subsection may be appealed as provided in
 5 IC 6-1.1-15. The appeal is limited to a review of a determination made
 6 by the ~~township~~ **county** assessor or the county auditor.

7 (g) Notwithstanding subsection (d), the certification for the 1993
 8 assessment year of a resource recovery system in regard to which a
 9 political subdivision is liable for the payment of the property taxes
 10 remains valid at the ninety-five percent (95%) deduction level allowed
 11 before 1994 as long as the political subdivision remains liable for the
 12 payment of the property taxes on the system.

13 SECTION 76. IC 6-1.1-12-30, AS AMENDED BY P.L.183-2007,
 14 SECTION 8, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 15 JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 30. Except as provided in section 36 of this
 16 chapter, a person who desires to claim the deduction provided by
 17 section 29 of this chapter must file a certified statement in duplicate,
 18 on forms prescribed by the department of local government finance,
 19 with the auditor of the county in which the real property or mobile
 20 home is subject to assessment. With respect to real property, the person
 21 must file the statement during the twelve (12) months before June 11
 22 of each year for which the person desires to obtain the deduction. With
 23 respect to a mobile home which is not assessed as real property, the
 24 person must file the statement during the twelve (12) months before
 25 March 31 of each year for which the person desires to obtain the
 26 deduction. On verification of the statement by the **county** assessor of
 27 the ~~township~~ **county** in which the real property or mobile home is
 28 subject to assessment, the county auditor shall allow the deduction.

29 SECTION 77. IC 6-1.1-12-35.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.183-2007,
 30 SECTION 9, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 31 JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 35.5. (a) Except as provided in section 36 of this
 32 chapter, a person who desires to claim the deduction provided by
 33 section 31, 33, 34, or 34.5 of this chapter must file a certified statement
 34 in duplicate, on forms prescribed by the department of local
 35 government finance, and proof of certification under subsection (b) or
 36 (f) with the auditor of the county in which the property for which the
 37 deduction is claimed is subject to assessment. Except as provided in
 38 subsection (e), with respect to property that is not assessed under
 39 IC 6-1.1-7, the person must file the statement during the twelve (12)
 40 months before June 11 of the assessment year. The person must file the
 41 statement in each year for which the person desires to obtain the
 42 deduction. With respect to a property which is assessed under

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1 IC 6-1.1-7, the person must file the statement during the twelve (12)
 2 months before March 31 of each year for which the person desires to
 3 obtain the deduction. The statement may be filed in person or by mail.
 4 If mailed, the mailing must be postmarked on or before the last day for
 5 filing. On verification of the statement by the **county** assessor of the
 6 ~~township~~ **county** in which the property for which the deduction is
 7 claimed is subject to assessment, the county auditor shall allow the
 8 deduction.

9 (b) This subsection does not apply to an application for a deduction
 10 under section 34.5 of this chapter. The department of environmental
 11 management, upon application by a property owner, shall determine
 12 whether a system or device qualifies for a deduction provided by
 13 section 31, 33, or 34 of this chapter. If the department determines that
 14 a system or device qualifies for a deduction, it shall certify the system
 15 or device and provide proof of the certification to the property owner.
 16 The department shall prescribe the form and manner of the certification
 17 process required by this subsection.

18 (c) This subsection does not apply to an application for a deduction
 19 under section 34.5 of this chapter. If the department of environmental
 20 management receives an application for certification before May 11 of
 21 the assessment year, the department shall determine whether the system
 22 or device qualifies for a deduction before June 11 of the assessment
 23 year. If the department fails to make a determination under this
 24 subsection before June 11 of the assessment year, the system or device
 25 is considered certified.

26 (d) A denial of a deduction claimed under section 31, 33, 34, or 34.5
 27 of this chapter may be appealed as provided in IC 6-1.1-15. The appeal
 28 is limited to a review of a determination made by the ~~township~~ **county**
 29 assessor **or the** county property tax assessment board of appeals, or
 30 department of local government finance.

31 (e) A person who timely files a personal property return under
 32 IC 6-1.1-3-7(a) for an assessment year and who desires to claim the
 33 deduction provided in section 31 of this chapter for property that is not
 34 assessed under IC 6-1.1-7 must file the statement described in
 35 subsection (a) during the twelve (12) months before June 11 of that
 36 year. A person who obtains a filing extension under IC 6-1.1-3-7(b) for
 37 an assessment year must file the application between March 1 and the
 38 extended due date for that year.

39 (f) This subsection applies only to an application for a deduction
 40 under section 34.5 of this chapter. The center for coal technology
 41 research established by IC 21-47-4-1, upon receiving an application
 42 from the owner of a building, shall determine whether the building

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qualifies for a deduction under section 34.5 of this chapter. If the center determines that a building qualifies for a deduction, the center shall certify the building and provide proof of the certification to the owner of the building. The center shall prescribe the form and procedure for certification of buildings under this subsection. If the center receives an application for certification of a building under section 34.5 of this chapter before May 11 of an assessment year:

(1) the center shall determine whether the building qualifies for a deduction before June 11 of the assessment year; and

(2) if the center fails to make a determination before June 11 of the assessment year, the building is considered certified.

SECTION 78. IC 6-1.1-12-38, AS AMENDED BY P.L.154-2006, SECTION 23, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 38. (a) A person is entitled to a deduction from the assessed value of the person's property in an amount equal to the difference between:

(1) the assessed value of the person's property, including the assessed value of the improvements made to comply with the fertilizer storage rules adopted by the state chemist under IC 15-3-3-12 and the pesticide storage rules adopted by the state chemist under IC 15-3-3.5-11; minus

(2) the assessed value of the person's property, excluding the assessed value of the improvements made to comply with the fertilizer storage rules adopted by the state chemist under IC 15-3-3-12 and the pesticide storage rules adopted by the state chemist under IC 15-3-3.5-11.

(b) To obtain the deduction under this section, a person must file a certified statement in duplicate, on forms prescribed by the department of local government finance, with the auditor of the county in which the property is subject to assessment. In addition to the certified statement, the person must file a certification by the state chemist listing the improvements that were made to comply with the fertilizer storage rules adopted under IC 15-3-3-12 and the pesticide storage rules adopted by the state chemist under IC 15-3-3.5-11. The statement and certification must be filed before June 11 of the year preceding the year the deduction will first be applied. Upon the verification of the statement and certification by the **county** assessor of the ~~township~~ **county** in which the property is subject to assessment, the county auditor shall allow the deduction.

SECTION 79. IC 6-1.1-12-41, AS AMENDED BY P.L.199-2005, SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 41. (a) This section does not apply to assessment

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years beginning after December 31, 2005.

(b) As used in this section, "assessed value of inventory" means the assessed value determined after the application of any deductions or adjustments that apply by statute or rule to the assessment of inventory, other than the deduction allowed under subsection (f).

(c) As used in this section, "county income tax council" means a council established by IC 6-3.5-6-2.

(d) As used in this section, "fiscal body" has the meaning set forth in IC 36-1-2-6.

(e) As used in this section, "inventory" has the meaning set forth in IC 6-1.1-3-11.

(f) An ordinance may be adopted in a county to provide that a deduction applies to the assessed value of inventory located in the county. The deduction is equal to one hundred percent (100%) of the assessed value of inventory located in the county for the appropriate year of assessment. An ordinance adopted under this section in a particular year applies:

(1) if adopted before March 31, 2004, to each subsequent assessment year ending before January 1, 2006; and

(2) if adopted after March 30, 2004, and before June 1, 2005, to the March 1, 2005, assessment date.

An ordinance adopted under this section may be consolidated with an ordinance adopted under IC 6-3.5-7-25 or IC 6-3.5-7-26. The consolidation of an ordinance adopted under this section with an ordinance adopted under IC 6-3.5-7-26 does not cause the ordinance adopted under IC 6-3.5-7-26 to expire after December 31, 2005.

(g) An ordinance may not be adopted under subsection (f) after May 30, 2005. However, an ordinance adopted under this section:

(1) before March 31, 2004, may be amended after March 30, 2004; and

(2) before June 1, 2005, may be amended after May 30, 2005; to consolidate an ordinance adopted under IC 6-3.5-7-26.

(h) The entity that may adopt the ordinance permitted under subsection (f) is:

(1) the county income tax council if the county option income tax is in effect on January 1 of the year in which an ordinance under this section is adopted;

(2) the county fiscal body if the county adjusted gross income tax is in effect on January 1 of the year in which an ordinance under this section is adopted; or

(3) the county income tax council or the county fiscal body, whichever acts first, for a county not covered by subdivision (1)

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or (2).

To adopt an ordinance under subsection (f), a county income tax council shall use the procedures set forth in IC 6-3.5-6 concerning the imposition of the county option income tax. The entity that adopts the ordinance shall provide a certified copy of the ordinance to the department of local government finance before February 1.

(i) A taxpayer is not required to file an application to qualify for the deduction permitted under subsection (f).

(j) The department of local government finance shall incorporate the deduction established in this section in the personal property return form to be used each year for filing under IC 6-1.1-3-7 or IC 6-1.1-3-7.5 to permit the taxpayer to enter the deduction on the form. If a taxpayer fails to enter the deduction on the form, the township county assessor shall:

(1) determine the amount of the deduction; and

(2) within the period established in IC 6-1.1-16-1, issue a notice of assessment to the taxpayer that reflects the application of the deduction to the inventory assessment.

(k) The deduction established in this section must be applied to any inventory assessment made by:

(1) an assessing official;

(2) a county property tax board of appeals; or

(3) the department of local government finance.

SECTION 80. IC 6-1.1-12-42 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 42. (a) As used in this section, "assessed value of inventory" means the assessed value determined after the application of any deductions or adjustments that apply by statute or rule to the assessment of inventory, other than the deduction established in subsection (c).

(b) As used in this section, "inventory" has the meaning set forth in IC 6-1.1-3-11.

(c) A taxpayer is entitled to a deduction from assessed value equal to one hundred percent (100%) of the taxpayer's assessed value of inventory beginning with assessments made in 2006 for property taxes first due and payable in 2007.

(d) A taxpayer is not required to file an application to qualify for the deduction established by this section.

(e) The department of local government finance shall incorporate the deduction established by this section in the personal property return form to be used each year for filing under IC 6-1.1-3-7 or IC 6-1.1-3-7.5 to permit the taxpayer to enter the deduction on the form. If a taxpayer fails to enter the deduction on the form, the

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1 ~~township~~ **county** assessor shall:

- 2 (1) determine the amount of the deduction; and
- 3 (2) within the period established in IC 6-1.1-16-1, issue a notice
- 4 of assessment to the taxpayer that reflects the application of the
- 5 deduction to the inventory assessment.

6 (f) The deduction established by this section must be applied to any

7 inventory assessment made by:

- 8 (1) an assessing official;
- 9 (2) a county property tax assessment board of appeals; or
- 10 (3) the department of local government finance.

11 SECTION 81. IC 6-1.1-12.1-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.193-2005,
 12 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 13 JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 5. (a) A property owner who desires to obtain the
 14 deduction provided by section 3 of this chapter must file a certified
 15 deduction application, on forms prescribed by the department of local
 16 government finance, with the auditor of the county in which the
 17 property is located. Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b) or
 18 (e), the deduction application must be filed before May 10 of the year
 19 in which the addition to assessed valuation is made.

20 (b) If notice of the addition to assessed valuation or new assessment
 21 for any year is not given to the property owner before April 10 of that
 22 year, the deduction application required by this section may be filed not
 23 later than thirty (30) days after the date such a notice is mailed to the
 24 property owner at the address shown on the records of the ~~township~~
 25 **county** assessor.

26 (c) The deduction application required by this section must contain
 27 the following information:

- 28 (1) The name of the property owner.
- 29 (2) A description of the property for which a deduction is claimed
- 30 in sufficient detail to afford identification.
- 31 (3) The assessed value of the improvements before rehabilitation.
- 32 (4) The increase in the assessed value of improvements resulting
- 33 from the rehabilitation.
- 34 (5) The assessed value of the new structure in the case of
- 35 redevelopment.
- 36 (6) The amount of the deduction claimed for the first year of the
- 37 deduction.
- 38 (7) If the deduction application is for a deduction in a
- 39 residentially distressed area, the assessed value of the
- 40 improvement or new structure for which the deduction is claimed.

41 (d) A deduction application filed under subsection (a) or (b) is
 42 applicable for the year in which the addition to assessed value or

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assessment of a new structure is made and in the following years the deduction is allowed without any additional deduction application being filed. However, property owners who had an area designated an urban development area pursuant to a deduction application filed prior to January 1, 1979, are only entitled to a deduction for a five (5) year period. In addition, property owners who are entitled to a deduction under this chapter pursuant to a deduction application filed after December 31, 1978, and before January 1, 1986, are entitled to a deduction for a ten (10) year period.

(e) A property owner who desires to obtain the deduction provided by section 3 of this chapter but who has failed to file a deduction application within the dates prescribed in subsection (a) or (b) may file a deduction application between March 1 and May 10 of a subsequent year which shall be applicable for the year filed and the subsequent years without any additional deduction application being filed for the amounts of the deduction which would be applicable to such years pursuant to section 4 of this chapter if such a deduction application had been filed in accordance with subsection (a) or (b).

(f) Subject to subsection (i), the county auditor shall act as follows:

(1) If a determination about the number of years the deduction is allowed has been made in the resolution adopted under section 2.5 of this chapter, the county auditor shall make the appropriate deduction.

(2) If a determination about the number of years the deduction is allowed has not been made in the resolution adopted under section 2.5 of this chapter, the county auditor shall send a copy of the deduction application to the designating body. Upon receipt of the resolution stating the number of years the deduction will be allowed, the county auditor shall make the appropriate deduction.

(3) If the deduction application is for rehabilitation or redevelopment in a residentially distressed area, the county auditor shall make the appropriate deduction.

(g) The amount and period of the deduction provided for property by section 3 of this chapter are not affected by a change in the ownership of the property if the new owner of the property:

(1) continues to use the property in compliance with any standards established under section 2(g) of this chapter; and

(2) files an application in the manner provided by subsection (e).

(h) The ~~township~~ county assessor shall include a notice of the deadlines for filing a deduction application under subsections (a) and (b) with each notice to a property owner of an addition to assessed value or of a new assessment.

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(i) Before the county auditor acts under subsection (f), the county auditor may request that the ~~township~~ **county** assessor of the ~~township~~ **county** in which the property is located review the deduction application.

(j) A property owner may appeal a determination of the county auditor under subsection (f) to deny or alter the amount of the deduction by ~~requesting~~ **filing a notice** in writing a ~~preliminary conference~~ with the county auditor not more than forty-five (45) days after the county auditor gives the person notice of the determination. An appeal initiated under this subsection is processed and determined in the same manner that an appeal is processed and determined under IC 6-1.1-15.

SECTION 82. IC 6-1.1-12.1-5.3, AS ADDED BY P.L.154-2006, SECTION 29, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 5.3. (a) A property owner that desires to obtain the deduction provided by section 4.8 of this chapter must file a deduction application, on forms prescribed by the department of local government finance, with the auditor of the county in which the eligible vacant building is located. Except as otherwise provided in this section, the deduction application must be filed before May 10 of the year in which the property owner or a tenant of the property owner initially occupies the eligible vacant building.

(b) If notice of the assessed valuation or new assessment for a year is not given to the property owner before April 10 of that year, the deduction application required by this section may be filed not later than thirty (30) days after the date the notice is mailed to the property owner at the address shown on the records of the ~~township~~ **county** assessor.

(c) The deduction application required by this section must contain the following information:

- (1) The name of the property owner and, if applicable, the property owner's tenant.
- (2) A description of the property for which a deduction is claimed.
- (3) The amount of the deduction claimed for the first year of the deduction.
- (4) Any other information required by the department of local government finance or the designating body.

(d) A deduction application filed under this section applies to the year in which the property owner or a tenant of the property owner occupies the eligible vacant building and in the following year if the deduction is allowed for a two (2) year period, without an additional deduction application being filed.

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(e) A property owner that desires to obtain the deduction provided by section 4.8 of this chapter but that did not file a deduction application within the dates prescribed in subsection (a) or (b) may file a deduction application between March 1 and May 10 of a subsequent year. A deduction application filed under this subsection applies to the year in which the deduction application is filed and the following year if the deduction is allowed for a two (2) year period, without an additional deduction application being filed. The amount of the deduction under this subsection is the amount that would have been applicable to the year under section 4.8 of this chapter if the deduction application had been filed in accordance with subsection (a) or (b).

(f) Subject to subsection (i), the county auditor shall do the following:

(1) If a determination concerning the number of years the deduction is allowed has been made in the resolution adopted under section 2.5 of this chapter, the county auditor shall make the appropriate deduction.

(2) If a determination concerning the number of years the deduction is allowed has not been made in the resolution adopted under section 2.5 of this chapter, the county auditor shall send a copy of the deduction application to the designating body. Upon receipt of the resolution stating the number of years the deduction will be allowed, the county auditor shall make the appropriate deduction.

(g) The amount and period of the deduction provided by section 4.8 of this chapter are not affected by a change in the ownership of the eligible vacant building or a change in the property owner's tenant, if the new property owner or the new tenant:

(1) continues to occupy the eligible vacant building in compliance with any standards established under section 2(g) of this chapter; and

(2) files an application in the manner provided by subsection (e).

(h) Before the county auditor acts under subsection (f), the county auditor may request that the ~~township~~ **county** assessor of the ~~township~~ **county** in which the eligible vacant building is located review the deduction application.

(i) A property owner may appeal a determination of the county auditor under subsection (f) by ~~requesting~~ **filing a notice** in writing ~~a preliminary conference~~ with the county auditor not more than forty-five (45) days after the county auditor gives the property owner notice of the determination. An appeal under this subsection shall be processed and determined in the same manner that an appeal is processed and

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determined under IC 6-1.1-15.

(j) In addition to the requirements of subsection (c), a property owner that files a deduction application under this section must provide the county auditor and the designating body with information showing the extent to which there has been compliance with the statement of benefits approved under section 4.8 of this chapter. This information must be included in the deduction application and must also be updated each year in which the deduction is applicable:

(1) at the same time that the property owner or the property owner's tenant files a personal property tax return for property located at the eligible vacant building for which the deduction was granted; or

(2) if subdivision (1) does not apply, before May 15 of each year.

(k) The following information is a public record if filed under this section:

(1) The name and address of the property owner.

(2) The location and description of the eligible vacant building for which the deduction was granted.

(3) Any information concerning the number of employees at the eligible vacant building for which the deduction was granted, including estimated totals that were provided as part of the statement of benefits.

(4) Any information concerning the total of the salaries paid to the employees described in subdivision (3), including estimated totals that are provided as part of the statement of benefits.

(5) Any information concerning the assessed value of the eligible vacant building, including estimates that are provided as part of the statement of benefits.

(l) Information concerning the specific salaries paid to individual employees by the property owner or tenant is confidential.

SECTION 83. IC 6-1.1-12.1-5.4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.193-2005, SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 5.4. (a) A person that desires to obtain the deduction provided by section 4.5 of this chapter must file a certified deduction schedule with the person's personal property return on a form prescribed by the department of local government finance with the ~~township~~ **county** assessor of the ~~township~~ **county** in which the new manufacturing equipment, new research and development equipment, new logistical distribution equipment, or new information technology equipment is located. Except as provided in subsection (e), the deduction is applied in the amount claimed in a certified schedule that a person files with:

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(1) a timely personal property return under IC 6-1.1-3-7(a) or IC 6-1.1-3-7(b); or

(2) a timely amended personal property return under IC 6-1.1-3-7.5.

The ~~township~~ **county** assessor shall forward to the county auditor ~~and the county assessor~~ a copy of each certified deduction schedule filed under this subsection.

(b) The deduction schedule required by this section must contain the following information:

(1) The name of the owner of the new manufacturing equipment, new research and development equipment, new logistical distribution equipment, or new information technology equipment.

(2) A description of the new manufacturing equipment, new research and development equipment, new logistical distribution equipment, or new information technology equipment.

(3) The amount of the deduction claimed for the first year of the deduction.

(c) This subsection applies to a deduction schedule with respect to new manufacturing equipment, new research and development equipment, new logistical distribution equipment, or new information technology equipment for which a statement of benefits was initially approved after April 30, 1991. If a determination about the number of years the deduction is allowed has not been made in the resolution adopted under section 2.5 of this chapter, the county auditor shall send a copy of the deduction schedule to the designating body, and the designating body shall adopt a resolution under section 4.5(g)(2) of this chapter.

(d) A deduction schedule must be filed under this section in the year in which the new manufacturing equipment, new research and development equipment, new logistical distribution equipment, or new information technology equipment is installed and in each of the immediately succeeding years the deduction is allowed.

(e) The ~~township assessor~~, or the county assessor may:

(1) review the deduction schedule; and

(2) before the March 1 that next succeeds the assessment date for which the deduction is claimed, deny or alter the amount of the deduction.

If the ~~township assessor~~ or the county assessor does not deny the deduction, the county auditor shall apply the deduction in the amount claimed in the deduction schedule or in the amount as altered by the ~~township assessor~~ or the county assessor. A ~~township assessor~~ or a

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1 county assessor who denies a deduction under this subsection or alters
 2 the amount of the deduction shall notify the person that claimed the
 3 deduction and the county auditor of the assessor's action. The county
 4 auditor shall notify the designating body and the county property tax
 5 assessment board of appeals of all deductions applied under this
 6 section.

7 (f) If the ownership of new manufacturing equipment, new research
 8 and development equipment, new logistical distribution equipment, or
 9 new information technology equipment changes, the deduction
 10 provided under section 4.5 of this chapter continues to apply to that
 11 equipment if the new owner:

12 (1) continues to use the equipment in compliance with any
 13 standards established under section 2(g) of this chapter; and

14 (2) files the deduction schedules required by this section.

15 (g) The amount of the deduction is the percentage under section 4.5
 16 of this chapter that would have applied if the ownership of the property
 17 had not changed multiplied by the assessed value of the equipment for
 18 the year the deduction is claimed by the new owner.

19 (h) A person may appeal a determination of the ~~township assessor~~
 20 ~~or the~~ county assessor under subsection (e) to deny or alter the amount
 21 of the deduction by **requesting filing a notice** in writing a **preliminary**
 22 **conference** with the ~~township assessor or the~~ county assessor not more
 23 than forty-five (45) days after the ~~township assessor or the~~ county
 24 assessor gives the person notice of the determination. Except as
 25 provided in subsection (i), an appeal initiated under this subsection is
 26 processed and determined in the same manner that an appeal is
 27 processed and determined under IC 6-1.1-15.

28 (i) The county assessor is recused from any action the county
 29 property tax assessment board of appeals takes with respect to an
 30 appeal under subsection (h) of a determination by the county assessor.

31 SECTION 84. IC 6-1.1-12.1-5.8 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 32 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 5.8. In lieu of providing
 33 the statement of benefits required by section 3 or 4.5 of this chapter and
 34 the additional information required by section 5.1 or 5.6 of this chapter,
 35 the designating body may, by resolution, waive the statement of
 36 benefits if the designating body finds that the purposes of this chapter
 37 are served by allowing the deduction and the property owner has,
 38 during the thirty-six (36) months preceding the first assessment date to
 39 which the waiver would apply, installed new manufacturing equipment,
 40 new research and development equipment, new logistical distribution
 41 equipment, or new information technology equipment or developed or
 42 rehabilitated property at a cost of at least ten million dollars

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1 (\$10,000,000) as determined by the **county** assessor of the ~~township~~
 2 **county** in which the property is located.

3 SECTION 85. IC 6-1.1-12.1-5.9, AS AMENDED BY P.L.154-2006,
 4 SECTION 30, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 5 JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 5.9. (a) This section does not apply to:

6 (1) a deduction under section 3 of this chapter for property
 7 located in a residentially distressed area; or

8 (2) any other deduction under section 3 or 4.5 of this chapter for
 9 which a statement of benefits was approved before July 1, 1991.

10 (b) Not later than forty-five (45) days after receipt of the information
 11 described in section 5.1, 5.3(j), or 5.6 of this chapter, the designating
 12 body may determine whether the property owner has substantially
 13 complied with the statement of benefits approved under section 3, 4.5,
 14 or 4.8 of this chapter. If the designating body determines that the
 15 property owner has not substantially complied with the statement of
 16 benefits and that the failure to substantially comply was not caused by
 17 factors beyond the control of the property owner (such as declines in
 18 demand for the property owner's products or services), the designating
 19 body shall mail a written notice to the property owner. The written
 20 notice must include the following provisions:

21 (1) An explanation of the reasons for the designating body's
 22 determination.

23 (2) The date, time, and place of a hearing to be conducted by the
 24 designating body for the purpose of further considering the
 25 property owner's compliance with the statement of benefits. The
 26 date of the hearing may not be more than thirty (30) days after the
 27 date on which the notice is mailed.

28 (c) On the date specified in the notice described in subsection
 29 (b)(2), the designating body shall conduct a hearing for the purpose of
 30 further considering the property owner's compliance with the statement
 31 of benefits. Based on the information presented at the hearing by the
 32 property owner and other interested parties, the designating body shall
 33 again determine whether the property owner has made reasonable
 34 efforts to substantially comply with the statement of benefits and
 35 whether any failure to substantially comply was caused by factors
 36 beyond the control of the property owner. If the designating body
 37 determines that the property owner has not made reasonable efforts to
 38 comply with the statement of benefits, the designating body shall adopt
 39 a resolution terminating the property owner's deduction under section
 40 3, 4.5, or 4.8 of this chapter. If the designating body adopts such a
 41 resolution, the deduction does not apply to the next installment of
 42 property taxes owed by the property owner or to any subsequent

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installment of property taxes.

(d) If the designating body adopts a resolution terminating a deduction under subsection (c), the designating body shall immediately mail a certified copy of the resolution to:

(1) the property owner;

(2) the county auditor; and

(3) ~~if the deduction applied under section 4.5 of this chapter, the township county~~ assessor.

The county auditor shall remove the deduction from the tax duplicate and shall notify the county treasurer of the termination of the deduction. If the designating body's resolution is adopted after the county treasurer has mailed the statement required by IC 6-1.1-22-8, the county treasurer shall immediately mail the property owner a revised statement that reflects the termination of the deduction.

(e) A property owner whose deduction is terminated by the designating body under this section may appeal the designating body's decision by filing a complaint in the office of the clerk of the circuit or superior court together with a bond conditioned to pay the costs of the appeal if the appeal is determined against the property owner. An appeal under this subsection shall be promptly heard by the court without a jury and determined within thirty (30) days after the time of the filing of the appeal. The court shall hear evidence on the appeal and may confirm the action of the designating body or sustain the appeal. The judgment of the court is final and conclusive unless an appeal is taken as in other civil actions.

(f) If an appeal under subsection (e) is pending, the taxes resulting from the termination of the deduction are not due until after the appeal is finally adjudicated and the termination of the deduction is finally determined.

SECTION 86. IC 6-1.1-12.4-1, AS ADDED BY P.L.193-2005, SECTION 8, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 1. For purposes of this chapter, "official" means:

(1) a county auditor; ~~or~~

(2) a county assessor. ~~or~~

~~(3) a township assessor~~

SECTION 87. IC 6-1.1-12.4-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.219-2007, SECTION 34, AND AS AMENDED BY P.L.234-2007, SECTION 38, IS CORRECTED AND AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 2. (a) For purposes of this section, an increase in the assessed value of real property is determined in the same manner that an increase in the assessed value of real property is determined for purposes of IC 6-1.1-12.1.

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(b) This subsection applies only to a development, redevelopment, or rehabilitation that is first assessed after March 1, 2005, and before March 2, ~~2009~~ 2007. Except as provided in subsection (h) and sections 4, 5, and 8 of this chapter, an owner of real property that:

- (1) develops, redevelops, or rehabilitates the real property; and
- (2) creates or retains employment from the development, redevelopment, or rehabilitation;

is entitled to a deduction from the assessed value of the real property.

(c) *Subject to section 14 of this chapter*, the deduction under this section is first available in the year in which the increase in assessed value resulting from the development, redevelopment, or rehabilitation occurs and continues for the following two (2) years. The amount of the deduction that a property owner may receive with respect to real property located in a county for a particular year equals the lesser of:

- (1) two million dollars (\$2,000,000); or
- (2) the product of:
 - (A) the increase in assessed value resulting from the development, rehabilitation, or redevelopment; multiplied by
 - (B) the percentage from the following table:

YEAR OF DEDUCTION	PERCENTAGE
1st	75%
2nd	50%
3rd	25%

(d) A property owner that qualifies for the deduction under this section must file a notice to claim the deduction in the manner prescribed by the department of local government finance under rules adopted by the department of local government finance under IC 4-22-2 to implement this chapter. The ~~township~~ county assessor shall:

- (1) inform the county auditor of the real property eligible for the deduction as contained in the notice filed by the taxpayer under this subsection; and
- (2) inform the county auditor of the deduction amount.

(e) The county auditor shall:

- (1) make the deductions; and
- (2) notify the county property tax assessment board of appeals of all deductions approved;

under this section.

(f) The amount of the deduction determined under subsection (c)(2) is adjusted to reflect the percentage increase or decrease in assessed valuation that results from:

- (1) a general reassessment of real property under IC 6-1.1-4-4; or

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(2) an annual adjustment under IC 6-1.1-4-4.5.

(g) If an appeal of an assessment is approved that results in a reduction of the assessed value of the real property, the amount of the deduction under this section is adjusted to reflect the percentage decrease that results from the appeal.

(h) The deduction under this section does not apply to a facility listed in IC 6-1.1-12.1-3(e).

SECTION 88. IC 6-1.1-12.4-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.219-2007, SECTION 35, AND AS AMENDED BY P.L.234-2007, SECTION 39, IS CORRECTED AND AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 3. (a) For purposes of this section, an increase in the assessed value of personal property is determined in the same manner that an increase in the assessed value of new manufacturing equipment is determined for purposes of IC 6-1.1-12.1.

(b) This subsection applies only to personal property that the owner purchases after March 1, 2005, and before March 2, ~~2009~~ 2007. Except as provided in sections 4, 5, and 8 of this chapter, an owner that purchases personal property other than inventory (as defined in 50 IAC 4.2-5-1, as in effect on January 1, 2005) that:

(1) was never before used by its owner for any purpose in Indiana; and

(2) creates or retains employment; is entitled to a deduction from the assessed value of the personal property.

(c) *Subject to section 14 of this chapter*, the deduction under this section is first available in the year in which the increase in assessed value resulting from the purchase of the personal property occurs and continues for the following two (2) years. The amount of the deduction that a property owner may receive with respect to personal property located in a county for a particular year equals the lesser of:

(1) two million dollars (\$2,000,000); or

(2) the product of:

(A) the increase in assessed value resulting from the purchase of the personal property; multiplied by

(B) the percentage from the following table:

YEAR OF DEDUCTION	PERCENTAGE
1st	75%
2nd	50%
3rd	25%

(d) If an appeal of an assessment is approved that results in a reduction of the assessed value of the personal property, the amount of the deduction is adjusted to reflect the percentage decrease that results

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1 from the appeal.

2 (e) A property owner must claim the deduction under this section on
3 the owner's annual personal property tax return. The ~~township~~ **county**
4 assessor shall:

5 (1) identify the personal property eligible for the deduction to the
6 county auditor; and

7 (2) inform the county auditor of the deduction amount.

8 (f) The county auditor shall:

9 (1) make the deductions; and

10 (2) notify the county property tax assessment board of appeals of
11 all deductions approved;

12 under this section.

13 (g) The deduction under this section does not apply to personal
14 property at a facility listed in IC 6-1.1-12.1-3(e).

15 SECTION 89. IC 6-1.1-12.4-9, AS ADDED BY P.L.193-2005,
16 SECTION 8, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
17 JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 9. If an official terminates a deduction under
18 section 8 of this chapter:

19 (1) the official shall immediately mail a certified copy of the
20 determination to:

21 (A) the property owner; and

22 (B) if the determination is made by the county assessor, ~~or the~~
23 ~~township assessor~~ the county auditor;

24 (2) the county auditor shall:

25 (A) remove the deduction from the tax duplicate; and

26 (B) notify the county treasurer of the termination of the
27 deduction; and

28 (3) if the official's determination to terminate the deduction
29 occurs after the county treasurer has mailed the statement
30 required by IC 6-1.1-22-8, the county treasurer shall immediately
31 mail the property owner a revised statement that reflects the
32 termination of the deduction.

33 SECTION 90. IC 6-1.1-13-2 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
34 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 2. When the county
35 property tax assessment board of appeals convenes, the county auditor
36 shall submit to the board the assessment list of the county for the
37 current year as ~~returned by the township assessors and as~~ amended and
38 returned by the county assessor. The county assessor shall make
39 recommendations to the board for corrections and changes in the
40 returns and assessments. The board shall consider and act upon all the
41 recommendations.

42 SECTION 91. IC 6-1.1-14-7 IS AMENDED TO READ AS

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1 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 7. The county assessor
 2 ~~a township assessor~~ or ten (10) or more taxpayers who are affected by
 3 an equalization order issued under section 5 of this chapter may file a
 4 petition for review of the order with the county ~~assessor~~ **auditor** of the
 5 county to which the equalization order is issued. The petition must be
 6 filed within ten (10) days after notice of the order is given under
 7 section 9 of this chapter. The petition shall set forth, in the form and
 8 detail prescribed by the department of local government finance, the
 9 objections to the equalization order.

10 SECTION 92. IC 6-1.1-14-8 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 11 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 8. (a) If a petition for
 12 review of an equalization order is filed with a county auditor under
 13 section 7 of this chapter, the county auditor shall immediately mail a
 14 certified copy of the petition and any information relevant to the
 15 petition to the department of local government finance. Within a
 16 reasonable period of time, the department of local government finance
 17 shall fix a date for a hearing on the petition. The hearing shall be held
 18 in the county to which the equalization order has been directed. At least
 19 three (3) days before the date fixed for the hearing, the department of
 20 local government finance shall give notice of the hearing by mail to the
 21 ~~township and county assessors~~ **assessor** whose ~~assessments are~~
 22 **assessment is** affected by the order and to the first ten (10) taxpayers
 23 whose names appear on the petition for review at the addresses listed
 24 by those taxpayers on the petition. In addition, the department of local
 25 government finance shall give the notice, if any, required under section
 26 9(a) of this chapter.

27 (b) After the hearing required by subsection (a), the department of
 28 local government finance may affirm, modify, or set aside its
 29 equalization order. The department shall certify its action with respect
 30 to the order to the county auditor. The county auditor shall immediately
 31 make any changes in the assessed values required by the action of the
 32 department of local government finance.

33 (c) A person whose name appears on the petition for review may
 34 petition for judicial review of the final determination of the department
 35 of local government finance under subsection (b). The petition must be
 36 filed in the tax court not more than forty-five (45) days after the
 37 department certifies its action under subsection (b).

38 SECTION 93. IC 6-1.1-15-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.1-2008,
 39 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 40 JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 1. (a) A taxpayer may obtain a review by the
 41 county board of a county ~~or township~~ official's action with respect to
 42 **either or both of the following:**

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(1) The assessment of the taxpayer's tangible property. if the official's action requires the giving of notice to the taxpayer:

(2) A deduction for which a review under this section is authorized by any of the following:

(A) IC 6-1.1-12-25.5.

(B) IC 6-1.1-12-28.5.

(C) IC 6-1.1-12-35.5.

(D) IC 6-1.1-12.1-5.

(E) IC 6-1.1-12.1-5.3.

(F) IC 6-1.1-12.1-5.4.

(b) At the time that notice of an action referred to in subsection (a) is given to the taxpayer, the taxpayer shall also be informed in writing of:

(1) the opportunity for a review under this section, including a preliminary informal meeting under subsection (h) subsection (h)(2) with the county or township official referred to in this subsection; and

(2) the procedures the taxpayer must follow in order to obtain a review under this section.

(c) In order to obtain a review of an assessment or deduction effective for the assessment date to which the notice referred to in subsection (a) subsection (b) applies, the taxpayer must file a notice in writing with the county or township official referred to in subsection (a) not later than forty-five (45) days after the date of the notice referred to in subsection (a): subsection (b).

(d) A taxpayer may obtain a review by the county board of the assessment of the taxpayer's tangible property effective for an assessment date for which a notice of assessment is not given as described in subsection (a): subsection (b). To obtain the review, the taxpayer must file a notice in writing with the township county assessor. of the township in which the property is subject to assessment. The right of a taxpayer to obtain a review under this subsection for an assessment date for which a notice of assessment is not given does not relieve an assessing official of the duty to provide the taxpayer with the notice of assessment as otherwise required by this article. For an assessment date in a year before 2009, the notice must be filed on or before May 10 of the year. For an assessment date in a year after 2008, the notice must be filed not later than the later of:

(1) May 10 of the year; or

(2) forty-five (45) days after the date of the statement mailed by the county auditor under IC 6-1.1-17-3(b).

(e) A change in an assessment made as a result of a notice for

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review filed by a taxpayer under ~~subsection (c)~~ **subsection (d)** after the time prescribed in ~~subsection (c)~~ **subsection (d)** becomes effective for the next assessment date. A change in an assessment made as a result of a notice for review filed by a taxpayer under ~~subsection (b) or (c)~~ **subsection (c) or (d)** remains in effect from the assessment date for which the change is made until the next assessment date for which the assessment is changed under this article.

~~(e)~~ **(f)** The written notice filed by a taxpayer under ~~subsection (b) or (c)~~ **subsection (c) or (d)** must include the following information:

- (1) The name of the taxpayer.
- (2) The address and parcel or key number of the property.
- (3) The address and telephone number of the taxpayer.

(g) The filing of a notice under subsection (c) or (d):

- (1) initiates a review under this section; and**
- (2) constitutes a request by the taxpayer for a preliminary informal meeting with the county official referred to in subsection (a).**

~~(f)~~ **(h)** A county or township official who receives a notice for review filed by a taxpayer under ~~subsection (b) or (c)~~ **subsection (c) or (d)** shall:

- (1) immediately forward the notice to the county board; and**
- (2) attempt to hold a preliminary informal meeting with the taxpayer to resolve as many issues as possible by:**
 - (A) discussing the specifics of the taxpayer's assessment or deduction;**
 - (B) reviewing the taxpayer's property record card;**
 - (C) explaining to the taxpayer how the assessment or deduction was determined;**
 - (D) providing to the taxpayer information about the statutes, rules, and guidelines that govern the determination of the assessment or deduction;**
 - (E) noting and considering objections of the taxpayer;**
 - (F) considering all errors alleged by the taxpayer; and**
 - (G) otherwise educating the taxpayer about:**
 - (i) the taxpayer's assessment or deduction;**
 - (ii) the assessment or deduction process; and**
 - (iii) the assessment or deduction appeal process.**

(i) Not later than ten (10) days after the informal preliminary meeting, the county official referred to in subsection (a) shall forward to the county auditor and the county board the results of the conference on a form prescribed by the department of local government finance that must be completed and signed by the

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taxpayer and the official. The form must indicate the following:

(1) If the taxpayer and the official agree on the resolution of all assessment or deduction issues in the review, a statement of:

(A) those issues; and

(B) the assessed value of the tangible property or the amount of the deduction that results from the resolution of those issues in the manner agreed to by the taxpayer and the official.

(2) If the taxpayer and the official do not agree on the resolution of all assessment or deduction issues in the review:

(A) a statement of those issues; and

(B) identification of:

(i) the issues on which the taxpayer and the official agree; and

(iii) the issues on which the taxpayer and the official disagree.

(j) If the county board receives a form referred to in subsection

(i)(1) before the hearing scheduled under subsection (k):

(1) the county board shall cancel the hearing;

(2) the county official referred to in subsection (a) shall give notice to the taxpayer, the county board, the county assessor, and the county auditor of the assessment or deduction in the amount referred to in subsection (i)(1)(B); and

(3) if the matter in issue is the assessment of tangible property, the county board may reserve the right to change the assessment under IC 6-1.1-13.

(g) (k) If:

(1) subsection (i)(2) applies; or

(2) the county board does not receive a form referred to in subsection (i) not later than one hundred twenty (120) days after the date of the notice for review filed by the taxpayer under subsection (c) or (d);

the county board shall hold a hearing on a review under this subsection not later than one hundred eighty (180) days after the date of ~~the~~ **that** notice. ~~for review filed by the taxpayer under subsection (b) or (c).~~ The county board shall, by mail, give notice of the date, time, and place fixed for the hearing to the taxpayer and the county ~~or township~~ official with whom the taxpayer filed the notice for review. The taxpayer and the county ~~or township~~ official with whom the taxpayer filed the notice for review are parties to the proceeding before the county board. **The county assessor is recused from any action the county board takes**

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1 with respect to an assessment determination by the county
2 assessor.

3 (h) Before the county board holds the hearing required under
4 subsection (g), the taxpayer may request a meeting by filing a written
5 request with the county or township official with whom the taxpayer
6 filed the notice for review to:

7 (1) attempt to resolve as many issues under review as possible;
8 and

9 (2) seek a joint recommendation for settlement of some or all of
10 the issues under review.

11 A county or township official who receives a meeting request under
12 this subsection before the county board hearing shall meet with the
13 taxpayer. The taxpayer and the county or township official shall present
14 a joint recommendation reached under this subsection to the county
15 board at the hearing required under subsection (g). The county board
16 may adopt or reject the recommendation in whole or in part.

17 (i) ~~(l)~~ At the hearing required under ~~subsection (g)~~: **subsection (k)**:

18 (1) the taxpayer may present the taxpayer's reasons for
19 disagreement with the assessment **or deduction**; and

20 (2) the county ~~or township~~ official with whom the taxpayer filed
21 the notice for review must present:

22 (A) the basis for the assessment **or deduction** decision; and

23 (B) the reasons the taxpayer's contentions should be denied.

24 (j) ~~(m)~~ **The county official referred to in subsection (a) may not**
25 **require the taxpayer to provide documentary evidence at the**
26 **preliminary informal meeting under subsection (h).** The county
27 board may not require a taxpayer to file documentary evidence or
28 summaries of statements of testimonial evidence before the hearing
29 required under ~~subsection (g)~~: **subsection (k)**. If the action for which
30 a taxpayer seeks review under this section is the assessment of tangible
31 property, the taxpayer is not required to have an appraisal of the
32 property in order to do the following:

33 (1) Initiate the review.

34 (2) Prosecute the review.

35 (k) ~~(n)~~ **Regardless of whether the county board adopts a**
36 **recommendation under subsection (h),** The county board shall prepare
37 a written decision resolving all of the issues under review. The county
38 board shall, by mail, give notice of its determination not later than one
39 hundred twenty (120) days after the hearing under ~~subsection (g)~~
40 **subsection (k)** to the taxpayer, **the county official referred to in**
41 **subsection (a),** the county assessor, and the township assessor: ~~county~~
42 **auditor.**

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1 ~~(j)~~ **(o)** If the maximum time elapses:

2 (1) under ~~subsection (g)~~ **subsection (k)** for the county board to
3 hold a hearing; or

4 (2) under ~~subsection (k)~~ **subsection (n)** for the county board to
5 give notice of its determination;

6 the taxpayer may initiate a proceeding for review before the Indiana
7 board by taking the action required by section 3 of this chapter at any
8 time after the maximum time elapses.

9 SECTION 94. IC 6-1.1-15-9, AS AMENDED BY P.L.219-2007,
10 SECTION 43, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
11 JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 9. (a) If the assessment or exemption of tangible
12 property is corrected by the department of local government finance or
13 the county board under section 8 of this chapter, the owner of the
14 property has a right to appeal the final determination of the corrected
15 assessment or exemption to the Indiana board. The county assessor also
16 has a right to appeal the final determination of the reassessment or
17 exemption by the department of local government finance or the county
18 board, but only upon request by the county assessor ~~the elected~~
19 ~~township assessor~~ or an affected taxing unit. If the appeal is taken at
20 the request of an affected taxing unit, the taxing unit shall pay the costs
21 of the appeal.

22 (b) An appeal under this section must be initiated in the manner
23 prescribed in section 3 of this chapter or IC 6-1.5-5.

24 SECTION 95. IC 6-1.1-15-12, AS AMENDED BY P.L.219-2007,
25 SECTION 45, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
26 JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 12. (a) Subject to the limitations contained in
27 subsections (c) and (d), a county auditor shall correct errors which are
28 discovered in the tax duplicate for any one (1) or more of the following
29 reasons:

30 (1) The description of the real property was in error.

31 (2) The assessment was against the wrong person.

32 (3) Taxes on the same property were charged more than one (1)
33 time in the same year.

34 (4) There was a mathematical error in computing the taxes or
35 penalties on the taxes.

36 (5) There was an error in carrying delinquent taxes forward from
37 one (1) tax duplicate to another.

38 (6) The taxes, as a matter of law, were illegal.

39 (7) There was a mathematical error in computing an assessment.

40 (8) Through an error of omission by any state or county officer,
41 the taxpayer was not given credit for an exemption or deduction
42 permitted by law.

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(b) The county auditor shall correct an error described under subsection (a)(1), (a)(2), (a)(3), (a)(4), or (a)(5) when the county auditor finds that the error exists.

(c) If the tax is based on an assessment made or determined by the department of local government finance, the county auditor shall not correct an error described under subsection (a)(6), (a)(7), or (a)(8) until after the correction is either approved by the department of local government finance or ordered by the tax court.

(d) If the tax is not based on an assessment made or determined by the department of local government finance, the county auditor shall correct an error described under subsection (a)(6), (a)(7), or (a)(8) only if the correction is first approved by ~~at least two (2)~~ **both** of the following officials:

~~(1) The township assessor.~~

~~(2) (1) The county auditor.~~

~~(3) (2) The county assessor.~~

If ~~two (2)~~ of these officials do not approve such a correction, the county auditor shall refer the matter to the county board for determination. The county board shall provide a copy of the determination to the taxpayer and to the county auditor.

(e) A taxpayer may appeal a determination of the county board to the Indiana board for a final administrative determination. An appeal under this section shall be conducted in the same manner as appeals under sections 4 through 8 of this chapter. The Indiana board shall send the final administrative determination to the taxpayer, the county auditor, **and** the county assessor. ~~and the township assessor~~

(f) If a correction or change is made in the tax duplicate after it is delivered to the county treasurer, the county auditor shall transmit a certificate of correction to the county treasurer. The county treasurer shall keep the certificate as the voucher for settlement with the county auditor.

(g) A taxpayer that files a personal property tax return under IC 6-1.1-3 may not petition under this section for the correction of an error made by the taxpayer on the taxpayer's personal property tax return. If the taxpayer wishes to correct an error made by the taxpayer on the taxpayer's personal property tax return, the taxpayer must instead file an amended personal property tax return under IC 6-1.1-3-7.5.

(h) A taxpayer that files a statement under IC 6-1.1-8-19 may not petition under this section for the correction of an error made by the taxpayer on the taxpayer's statement. If the taxpayer wishes to correct an error made by the taxpayer on the taxpayer's statement, the taxpayer

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1 must instead initiate an objection under IC 6-1.1-8-28 or an appeal
2 under IC 6-1.1-8-30.

3 (i) A taxpayer that files a statement under IC 6-1.1-8-23 may not
4 petition under this section for the correction of an error made by the
5 taxpayer on the taxpayer's statement. If the taxpayer wishes to correct
6 an error made by the taxpayer on the taxpayer's statement, the taxpayer
7 must instead file an amended statement not more than six (6) months
8 after the due date of the statement.

9 SECTION 96. IC 6-1.1-15-14, AS AMENDED BY P.L.219-2007,
10 SECTION 46, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
11 JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 14. In any assessment review, the assessing
12 official ~~the county assessor; and the members of a county board~~ shall:

13 (1) use the department of local government finance's rules in
14 effect; and

15 (2) consider the conditions and circumstances of the property as
16 they existed;

17 on the original assessment date of the property under review.

18 SECTION 97. IC 6-1.1-15-16, AS AMENDED BY P.L.219-2007,
19 SECTION 47, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
20 JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 16. Notwithstanding any provision in the 2002
21 Real Property Assessment Manual and Real Property Assessment
22 Guidelines for 2002-Version A, incorporated by reference in 50
23 IAC 2.3-1-2, a county board or the Indiana board shall consider all
24 evidence relevant to the assessment of real property regardless of
25 whether the evidence was submitted to the ~~township county~~ assessor
26 before the assessment of the property.

27 SECTION 98. IC 6-1.1-16-1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
28 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 1. (a) Except as
29 provided in section 2 of this chapter, an assessing official ~~county~~
30 ~~assessor~~, or county property tax assessment board of appeals may not
31 change the assessed value claimed by a taxpayer on a personal property
32 return unless the assessing official ~~county assessor~~, or county property
33 tax assessment board of appeals takes the action and gives the notice
34 required by IC 6-1.1-3-20 within the following ~~time~~ periods:

35 (1) ~~A township or county assessing official must make a change~~
36 ~~in the assessed value and give the notice of the change on or~~
37 ~~before the latter of:~~

38 (A) ~~September 15~~ of the year for which the assessment is
39 ~~made; or~~

40 (B) ~~four (4) months from the date the personal property return~~
41 ~~is filed if the return is filed after May 15 of the year for which~~
42 ~~the assessment is made.~~

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(2) ~~A county assessor~~ (1) **An assessing official** or county property tax assessment board of appeals must make a change in the assessed value, including the final determination by the board of an assessment changed by ~~a township or county~~ **an** assessing official, ~~or county property tax assessment board of appeals~~, and give the notice of the change on or before the ~~latter~~ **later** of:

(A) October 30 of the year for which the assessment is made;

or

(B) five (5) months from the date the personal property return is filed if the return is filed after May 15 of the year for which the assessment is made.

~~(3)~~ (2) The department of local government finance must make a preliminary change in the assessed value and give the notice of the change on or before the ~~latter~~ **later** of:

(A) October 1 of the year immediately following the year for which the assessment is made; or

(B) sixteen (16) months from the date the personal property return is filed if the return is filed after May 15 of the year for which the assessment is made.

(b) Except as provided in section 2 of this chapter, if an assessing official ~~a county assessor~~, or a county property tax assessment board of appeals fails to change an assessment and give notice of the change within the time prescribed by this section, the assessed value claimed by the taxpayer on the personal property return is final.

(c) This section does not limit the authority of a county auditor to correct errors in a tax duplicate under IC 6-1.1-15-12.

(d) This section does not apply if the taxpayer:

(1) fails to file a personal property return which substantially complies with ~~the provisions of~~ this article and the regulations of the department of local government finance; or

(2) files a fraudulent personal property return with the intent to evade the payment of property taxes.

(e) A taxpayer may appeal a preliminary determination of the department of local government finance under subsection ~~(a)(3)~~ **(a)(2)** to the Indiana board. An appeal under this subdivision shall be conducted in the same manner as an appeal under IC 6-1.1-15-4 through IC 6-1.1-15-8. A preliminary determination that is not appealed under this subsection is a final unappealable order of the department of local government finance.

SECTION 99. IC 6-1.1-16-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.219-2007, SECTION 48, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 2. (a) If a county property tax assessment board of

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appeals fails to change an assessed value claimed by a taxpayer on a personal property return and give notice of the change within the time prescribed in section 1(a)(2) of this chapter, the ~~township assessor, or the~~ county assessor may file a petition for review of the assessment by the Indiana board. The ~~township assessor or the~~ county assessor must file the petition for review in the manner provided in IC 6-1.1-15-3(d). The ~~time~~ period for filing the petition begins to run on the last day that the county board is permitted to act on the assessment under section 1(a)(2) of this chapter as though the board acted and gave notice of its action on that day.

(b) Notwithstanding section 1(a)(3) of this chapter, the department of local government finance shall reassess tangible property when an appealed assessment of the property is remanded to the board under IC 6-1.1-15-8.

SECTION 100. IC 6-1.1-17-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.154-2006, SECTION 42, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 1. (a) On or before August 1 of each year, the county auditor shall send a certified statement, under the seal of the board of county commissioners, to the fiscal officer of each political subdivision of the county and the department of local government finance. The statement shall contain:

- (1) information concerning the assessed valuation in the political subdivision for the next calendar year;
- (2) an estimate of the taxes to be distributed to the political subdivision during the last six (6) months of the current calendar year;
- (3) the current assessed valuation as shown on the abstract of charges;
- (4) the average growth in assessed valuation in the political subdivision over the preceding three (3) budget years, excluding years in which a general reassessment occurs, determined according to procedures established by the department of local government finance;
- (5) the amount of the political subdivision's assessed valuation reduction determined under section 0.5(d) of this chapter;
- (6) for counties with taxing units that cross into or intersect with other counties, the assessed valuation as shown on the most current abstract of property; and**
- ~~(6)~~ (7) any other information at the disposal of the county auditor that might affect the assessed value used in the budget adoption process.

(b) The estimate of taxes to be distributed shall be based on:

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(1) the abstract of taxes levied and collectible for the current calendar year, less any taxes previously distributed for the calendar year; and

(2) any other information at the disposal of the county auditor which might affect the estimate.

(c) The fiscal officer of each political subdivision shall present the county auditor's statement to the proper officers of the political subdivision.

(d) Subject to subsection (e) and except as provided in subsection (f), after the county auditor sends a certified statement under subsection (a) or an amended certified statement under this subsection with respect to a political subdivision and before the department of local government finance certifies its action with respect to the political subdivision under section 16(f) of this chapter, the county auditor may amend the information concerning assessed valuation included in the earlier certified statement. The county auditor shall send a certified statement amended under this subsection, under the seal of the board of county commissioners, to:

(1) the fiscal officer of each political subdivision affected by the amendment; and

(2) the department of local government finance.

(e) Except as provided in subsection (g), before the county auditor makes an amendment under subsection (d), the county auditor must provide an opportunity for public comment on the proposed amendment at a public hearing. The county auditor must give notice of the hearing under IC 5-3-1. If the county auditor makes the amendment as a result of information provided to the county auditor by an assessor, the county auditor shall give notice of the public hearing to the assessor.

(f) Subsection (d) does not apply to an adjustment of assessed valuation under IC 36-7-15.1-26.9(d).

(g) The county auditor is not required to hold a public hearing under subsection (e) if:

(1) the amendment under subsection (d) is proposed to correct a mathematical error made in the determination of the amount of assessed valuation included in the earlier certified statement;

(2) the amendment under subsection (d) is proposed to add to the amount of assessed valuation included in the earlier certified statement assessed valuation of omitted property discovered after the county auditor sent the earlier certified statement; or

(3) the county auditor determines that the amendment under subsection (d) will not result in an increase in the tax rate or tax

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rates of the political subdivision.

SECTION 101. IC 6-1.1-17-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.219-2007, SECTION 49, AND AS AMENDED BY P.L.224-2007, SECTION 5, IS CORRECTED AND AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 3. (a) The proper officers of a political subdivision shall formulate its estimated budget and its proposed tax rate and tax levy on the form prescribed by the department of local government finance and approved by the state board of accounts. The political subdivision shall give notice by publication to taxpayers of:

- (1) the estimated budget;
- (2) the estimated maximum permissible levy;
- (3) the current and proposed tax levies of each fund; and
- (4) the amounts of excessive levy appeals to be requested.

In the notice, the political subdivision shall also state the time and place at which a public hearing will be held on these items. The notice shall be published twice in accordance with IC 5-3-1 with the first publication at least ten (10) days before the date fixed for the public hearing. Beginning in 2009, the duties required by this subsection must be completed before August 10 of the calendar year. A political subdivision shall provide the estimated budget and levy information required for the notice under subsection (b) to the county auditor on the schedule determined by the department of local government finance.

(b) Beginning in 2009, before August 10 of a calendar year, the county auditor shall mail to the last known address of each person liable for any property taxes, as shown on the tax duplicate, or to the last known address of the most recent owner shown in the transfer book, a statement that includes:

- (1) the assessed valuation as of the assessment date in the current calendar year of tangible property on which the person will be liable for property taxes first due and payable in the immediately succeeding calendar year and notice to the person of the opportunity to appeal the assessed valuation under ~~IC 6-1.1-15-1(b); IC 6-1.1-15-1(c);~~ **IC 6-1.1-15-1.**

- (2) the amount of property taxes for which the person will be liable to each political subdivision on the tangible property for taxes first due and payable in the immediately succeeding calendar year, taking into account all factors that affect that liability, including:

- (A) the estimated budget and proposed tax rate and tax levy formulated by the political subdivision under subsection (a);
- (B) any deductions or exemptions that apply to the assessed

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1 valuation of the tangible property;
 2 (C) any credits that apply in the determination of the tax
 3 liability; and
 4 (D) the county auditor's best estimate of the effects on the tax
 5 liability that might result from actions of:
 6 (i) the county board of tax adjustment *(before January 1,*
 7 *2009) or the county board of tax and capital projects review*
 8 *(after December 31, 2008); or*
 9 (ii) the department of local government finance;
 10 (3) a prominently displayed notation that:
 11 (A) the estimate under subdivision (2) is based on the best
 12 information available at the time the statement is mailed; and
 13 (B) based on various factors, including potential actions by:
 14 (i) the county board of tax adjustment *(before January 1,*
 15 *2009) or the county board of tax and capital projects review*
 16 *(after December 31, 2008); or*
 17 (ii) the department of local government finance;
 18 it is possible that the tax liability as finally determined will
 19 differ substantially from the estimate;
 20 (4) comparative information showing the amount of property
 21 taxes for which the person is liable to each political subdivision
 22 on the tangible property for taxes first due and payable in the
 23 current year; and
 24 (5) the date, time, and place at which the political subdivision will
 25 hold a public hearing on the political subdivision's estimated
 26 budget and proposed tax rate and tax levy as required under
 27 subsection (a).
 28 (c) The department of local government finance shall:
 29 (1) prescribe a form for; and
 30 (2) provide assistance to county auditors in preparing;
 31 statements under subsection (b). Mailing the statement described in
 32 subsection (b) to a mortgagee maintaining an escrow account for a
 33 person who is liable for any property taxes shall not be construed as
 34 compliance with subsection (b).
 35 (d) The board of directors of a solid waste management district
 36 established under IC 13-21 or IC 13-9.5-2 (before its repeal) may
 37 conduct the public hearing required under subsection (a):
 38 (1) in any county of the solid waste management district; and
 39 (2) in accordance with the annual notice of meetings published
 40 under IC 13-21-5-2.
 41 (e) The trustee of each township in the county shall estimate the
 42 amount necessary to meet the cost of township assistance in the

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township for the ensuing calendar year. The township board shall adopt with the township budget a tax rate sufficient to meet the estimated cost of township assistance. The taxes collected as a result of the tax rate adopted under this subsection are credited to the township assistance fund.

(f) A county shall adopt with the county budget and the department of local government finance shall certify under section 16 of this chapter a tax rate sufficient to raise the levy necessary to pay the following:

(1) The cost of child services (as defined in IC 12-19-7-1) of the county payable from the family and children's fund.

(2) The cost of children's psychiatric residential treatment services (as defined in IC 12-19-7.5-1) of the county payable from the children's psychiatric residential treatment services fund.

A budget, tax rate, or tax levy adopted by a county fiscal body or approved or modified by a county board of tax adjustment that is less than the levy necessary to pay the costs described in subdivision (1) or (2) shall not be treated as a final budget, tax rate, or tax levy under section 11 of this chapter.

SECTION 102. IC 6-1.1-21-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.234-2007, SECTION 297, AND AS AMENDED BY P.L.219-2007, SECTION 62, IS CORRECTED AND AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 4. (a) Each year the department shall allocate from the property tax replacement fund an amount equal to the sum of:

(1) each county's total eligible property tax replacement amount for that year; plus

(2) the total amount of homestead tax credits that are provided under IC 6-1.1-20.9 and allowed by each county for that year; plus

(3) an amount for each county that has one (1) or more taxing districts that contain all or part of an economic development district that meets the requirements of section 5.5 of this chapter. This amount is the sum of the amounts determined under the following STEPS for all taxing districts in the county that contain all or part of an economic development district:

STEP ONE: Determine that part of the sum of the amounts under section 2(g)(1)(A) and 2(g)(2) of this chapter that is attributable to the taxing district.

STEP TWO: Divide:

(A) that part of the subdivision (1) amount that is attributable to the taxing district; by

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(B) the STEP ONE sum.

STEP THREE: Multiply:

(A) the STEP TWO quotient; times

(B) the taxes levied in the taxing district that are allocated to a special fund under IC 6-1.1-39-5.

(b) Except as provided in subsection (e), between March 1 and August 31 of each year, the department shall distribute to each county treasurer from the property tax replacement fund one-half (1/2) of the estimated distribution for that year for the county. Between September 1 and December 15 of that year, the department shall distribute to each county treasurer from the property tax replacement fund the remaining one-half (1/2) of each estimated distribution for that year. The amount of the distribution for each of these periods shall be according to a schedule determined by the property tax replacement fund board under section 10 of this chapter. The estimated distribution for each county may be adjusted from time to time by the department to reflect any changes in the total county tax levy upon which the estimated distribution is based.

(c) On or before December 31 of each year or as soon thereafter as possible, the department shall make a final determination of the amount which should be distributed from the property tax replacement fund to each county for that calendar year. This determination shall be known as the final determination of distribution. The department shall distribute to the county treasurer or, *except as provided in section 9 of this chapter*, receive back from the county treasurer any deficit or excess, as the case may be, between the sum of the distributions made for that calendar year based on the estimated distribution and the final determination of distribution. The final determination of distribution shall be based on the auditor's abstract filed with the auditor of state, adjusted for postabstract adjustments included in the December settlement sheet for the year, and such additional information as the department may require.

(d) All distributions provided for in this section shall be made on warrants issued by the auditor of state drawn on the treasurer of state. If the amounts allocated by the department from the property tax replacement fund exceed in the aggregate the balance of money in the fund, then the amount of the deficiency shall be transferred from the state general fund to the property tax replacement fund, and the auditor of state shall issue a warrant to the treasurer of state ordering the payment of that amount. However, any amount transferred under this section from the general fund to the property tax replacement fund shall, as soon as funds are available in the property tax replacement

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fund, be retransferred from the property tax replacement fund to the state general fund, and the auditor of state shall issue a warrant to the treasurer of state ordering the replacement of that amount.

(e) Except as provided in subsection (g) and subject to subsection (h), the department shall not distribute under subsection (b) and section 10 of this chapter a percentage, determined by the department, of the money that would otherwise be distributed to the county under subsection (b) and section 10 of this chapter if:

(1) by the date the distribution is scheduled to be made, the county auditor has not sent a certified statement required to be sent by that date under IC 6-1.1-17-1 to the department of local government finance;

(2) by the deadline under IC 36-2-9-20, the county auditor has not transmitted data as required under that section;

(3) the county assessor has not forwarded to the department of local government finance the duplicate copies of all approved exemption applications required to be forwarded by that date under IC 6-1.1-11-8(a);

(4) the county assessor has not forwarded to the department of local government finance in a timely manner sales disclosure *forms form data* under ~~IC 6-1.1-5.5-3(b); IC 6-1.1-5.5-3(h);~~ **IC 6-1.1-5.5-3(c);**

(5) local assessing officials have not provided information to the department of local government finance in a timely manner under IC 4-10-13-5(b);

(6) the county auditor has not paid a bill for services under IC 6-1.1-4-31.5 to the department of local government finance in a timely manner;

(7) the ~~elected township assessors in the county the elected township assessors and the county assessor; or the county assessor~~ has not transmitted to the department of local government finance by October 1 of the year in which the distribution is scheduled to be made the data for all townships in the county required to be transmitted under IC 6-1.1-4-25(b);

(8) the county has not established a parcel index numbering system under 50 IAC 12-15-1 in a timely manner; or

(9) a ~~township or~~ county official has not provided other information to the department of local government finance in a timely manner as required by the department.

(f) Except as provided in subsection (i), money not distributed for the reasons stated in subsection (e) shall be distributed to the county when the department of local government finance determines that the

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1 failure to:

2 (1) provide information; or

3 (2) pay a bill for services;

4 has been corrected.

5 (g) The restrictions on distributions under subsection (e) do not
6 apply if the department of local government finance determines that the
7 failure to:

8 (1) provide information; or

9 (2) pay a bill for services;

10 in a timely manner is justified by unusual circumstances.

11 (h) The department shall give the county auditor at least thirty (30)
12 days notice in writing before withholding a distribution under
13 subsection (e).

14 (i) Money not distributed for the reason stated in subsection (e)(6)
15 may be deposited in the fund established by IC 6-1.1-5.5-4.7(a). Money
16 deposited under this subsection is not subject to distribution under
17 subsection (f).

18 SECTION 103. IC 6-1.1-23-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.214-2005,
19 SECTION 14, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
20 JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 1. (a) Annually, after November 10th but before
21 August 1st of the succeeding year, each county treasurer shall serve a
22 written demand upon each county resident who is delinquent in the
23 payment of personal property taxes. Annually, after May 10 but before
24 October 31 of the same year, each county treasurer may serve a written
25 demand upon a county resident who is delinquent in the payment of
26 personal property taxes. The written demand may be served upon the
27 taxpayer:

28 (1) by registered or certified mail;

29 (2) in person by the county treasurer or the county treasurer's
30 agent; or

31 (3) by proof of certificate of mailing.

32 (b) The written demand required by this section shall contain:

33 (1) a statement that the taxpayer is delinquent in the payment of
34 personal property taxes;

35 (2) the amount of the delinquent taxes;

36 (3) the penalties due on the delinquent taxes;

37 (4) the collection expenses which the taxpayer owes; and

38 (5) a statement that if the sum of the delinquent taxes, penalties,
39 and collection expenses are not paid within thirty (30) days from
40 the date the demand is made then:

41 (A) sufficient personal property of the taxpayer shall be sold
42 to satisfy the total amount due plus the additional collection

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- 1 expenses incurred; or
- 2 (B) a judgment may be entered against the taxpayer in the
- 3 circuit court of the county.
- 4 (c) Subsections (d) through (g) apply only to personal property that:
- 5 (1) is subject to a lien of a creditor imposed under an agreement
- 6 entered into between the debtor and the creditor after June 30,
- 7 2005;
- 8 (2) comes into the possession of the creditor or the creditor's agent
- 9 after May 10, 2006, to satisfy all or part of the debt arising from
- 10 the agreement described in subdivision (1); and
- 11 (3) has an assessed value of at least three thousand two hundred
- 12 dollars (\$3,200).
- 13 (d) For the purpose of satisfying a creditor's lien on personal
- 14 property, the creditor of a taxpayer that comes into possession of
- 15 personal property on which the taxpayer is adjudicated delinquent in
- 16 the payment of personal property taxes must pay in full to the county
- 17 treasurer the amount of the delinquent personal property taxes
- 18 determined under STEP SEVEN of the following formula from the
- 19 proceeds of any transfer of the personal property made by the creditor
- 20 or the creditor's agent before applying the proceeds to the creditor's lien
- 21 on the personal property:
- 22 STEP ONE: Determine the amount realized from any transfer of
- 23 the personal property made by the creditor or the creditor's agent
- 24 after the payment of the direct costs of the transfer.
- 25 STEP TWO: Determine the amount of the delinquent taxes,
- 26 including penalties and interest accrued on the delinquent taxes
- 27 as identified on the form described in subsection (f) by the county
- 28 treasurer.
- 29 STEP THREE: Determine the amount of the total of the unpaid
- 30 debt that is a lien on the transferred property that was perfected
- 31 before the assessment date on which the delinquent taxes became
- 32 a lien on the transferred property.
- 33 STEP FOUR: Determine the sum of the STEP TWO amount and
- 34 the STEP THREE amount.
- 35 STEP FIVE: Determine the result of dividing the STEP TWO
- 36 amount by the STEP FOUR amount.
- 37 STEP SIX: Multiply the STEP ONE amount by the STEP FIVE
- 38 amount.
- 39 STEP SEVEN: Determine the lesser of the following:
- 40 (A) The STEP TWO amount.
- 41 (B) The STEP SIX amount.
- 42 (e) This subsection applies to transfers made by a creditor after May

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1 10, 2006. As soon as practicable after a creditor comes into possession
 2 of the personal property described in subsection (c), the creditor shall
 3 request the form described in subsection (f) from the county treasurer.
 4 Before a creditor transfers personal property described in subsection
 5 (d) on which delinquent personal property taxes are owed, the creditor
 6 must obtain from the county treasurer a delinquent personal property
 7 tax form and file the delinquent personal property tax form with the
 8 county treasurer. The creditor shall provide the county treasurer with:

9 (1) the name and address of the debtor; and

10 (2) a specific description of the personal property described in
 11 subsection (d);

12 when requesting a delinquent personal property tax form.

13 (f) The delinquent personal property tax form must be in a form
 14 prescribed by the state board of accounts under IC 5-11 and must
 15 require the following information:

16 (1) The name and address of the debtor as identified by the
 17 creditor.

18 (2) A description of the personal property identified by the
 19 creditor and now in the creditor's possession.

20 (3) The assessed value of the personal property identified by the
 21 creditor and now in the creditor's possession, as determined under
 22 subsection (g).

23 (4) The amount of delinquent personal property taxes owed on the
 24 personal property identified by the creditor and now in the
 25 creditor's possession, as determined under subsection (g).

26 (5) A statement notifying the creditor that ~~IC 6-1.1-23-1~~ **this**
 27 **section** requires that a creditor, upon the liquidation of personal
 28 property for the satisfaction of the creditor's lien, must pay in full
 29 the amount of delinquent personal property taxes owed as
 30 determined under subsection (d) on the personal property in the
 31 amount identified on this form from the proceeds of the
 32 liquidation before the proceeds of the liquidation may be applied
 33 to the creditor's lien on the personal property.

34 (g) The county treasurer shall provide the delinquent personal
 35 property tax form described in subsection (f) to the creditor not later
 36 than fourteen (14) days after the date the creditor requests the
 37 delinquent personal property tax form. The county **assessor and**
 38 **township assessors** shall assist the county treasurer in determining the
 39 appropriate assessed value of the personal property and the amount of
 40 delinquent personal property taxes owed on the personal property.
 41 Assistance provided by the county **assessor and township assessors**
 42 must include providing the county treasurer with relevant personal

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property forms filed with the ~~assessors~~ **county assessor** and providing the county treasurer with any other assistance necessary to accomplish the purposes of this section.

SECTION 104. IC 6-1.1-24-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.89-2007, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 2. (a) In addition to the delinquency list required under section 1 of this chapter, each county auditor shall prepare a notice. The notice shall contain the following:

(1) A list of tracts or real property eligible for sale under this chapter.

(2) A statement that the tracts or real property included in the list will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder, subject to the right of redemption.

(3) A statement that the tracts or real property will not be sold for an amount which is less than the sum of:

(A) the delinquent taxes and special assessments on each tract or item of real property;

(B) the taxes and special assessments on each tract or item of real property that are due and payable in the year of the sale, whether or not they are delinquent;

(C) all penalties due on the delinquencies;

(D) an amount prescribed by the county auditor that equals the sum of:

(i) the greater of twenty-five dollars (\$25) or postage and publication costs; and

(ii) any other actual costs incurred by the county that are directly attributable to the tax sale; and

(E) any unpaid costs due under subsection (b) from a prior tax sale.

(4) A statement that a person redeeming each tract or item of real property after the sale must pay:

(A) one hundred ten percent (110%) of the amount of the minimum bid for which the tract or item of real property was offered at the time of sale if the tract or item of real property is redeemed not more than six (6) months after the date of sale;

(B) one hundred fifteen percent (115%) of the amount of the minimum bid for which the tract or item of real property was offered at the time of sale if the tract or item of real property is redeemed more than six (6) months after the date of sale;

(C) the amount by which the purchase price exceeds the minimum bid on the tract or item of real property plus ten

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percent (10%) per annum on the amount by which the purchase price exceeds the minimum bid; and

(D) all taxes and special assessments on the tract or item of real property paid by the purchaser after the tax sale plus interest at the rate of ten percent (10%) per annum on the amount of taxes and special assessments paid by the purchaser on the redeemed property.

(5) A statement for informational purposes only, of the location of each tract or item of real property by key number, if any, and street address, if any, or a common description of the property other than a legal description. The ~~township~~ **county** assessor, upon written request from the county auditor, shall provide the information to be in the notice required by this subsection. A misstatement in the key number or street address does not invalidate an otherwise valid sale.

(6) A statement that the county does not warrant the accuracy of the street address or common description of the property.

(7) A statement indicating:

(A) the name of the owner of each tract or item of real property with a single owner; or

(B) the name of at least one (1) of the owners of each tract or item of real property with multiple owners.

(8) A statement of the procedure to be followed for obtaining or objecting to a judgment and order of sale, that must include the following:

(A) A statement:

- (i) that the county auditor and county treasurer will apply on or after a date designated in the notice for a court judgment against the tracts or real property for an amount that is not less than the amount set under subdivision (3), and for an order to sell the tracts or real property at public auction to the highest bidder, subject to the right of redemption; and
- (ii) indicating the date when the period of redemption specified in IC 6-1.1-25-4 will expire.

(B) A statement that any defense to the application for judgment must be:

- (i) filed with the court; and
- (ii) served on the county auditor and the county treasurer; before the date designated as the earliest date on which the application for judgment may be filed.

(C) A statement that the county auditor and the county treasurer are entitled to receive all pleadings, motions,

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- 1 petitions, and other filings related to the defense to the
 2 application for judgment.
- 3 (D) A statement that the court will set a date for a hearing at
 4 least seven (7) days before the advertised date and that the
 5 court will determine any defenses to the application for
 6 judgment at the hearing.
- 7 (9) A statement that the sale will be conducted at a place
 8 designated in the notice and that the sale will continue until all
 9 tracts and real property have been offered for sale.
- 10 (10) A statement that the sale will take place at the times and
 11 dates designated in the notice. Whenever the public auction is to
 12 be conducted as an electronic sale, the notice must include a
 13 statement indicating that the public auction will be conducted as
 14 an electronic sale and a description of the procedures that must be
 15 followed to participate in the electronic sale.
- 16 (11) A statement that a person redeeming each tract or item after
 17 the sale must pay the costs described in IC 6-1.1-25-2(e).
- 18 (12) If a county auditor and county treasurer have entered into an
 19 agreement under IC 6-1.1-25-4.7, a statement that the county
 20 auditor will perform the duties of the notification and title search
 21 under IC 6-1.1-25-4.5 and the notification and petition to the
 22 court for the tax deed under IC 6-1.1-25-4.6.
- 23 (13) A statement that, if the tract or item of real property is sold
 24 for an amount more than the minimum bid and the property is not
 25 redeemed, the owner of record of the tract or item of real property
 26 who is divested of ownership at the time the tax deed is issued
 27 may have a right to the tax sale surplus.
- 28 (14) If a determination has been made under subsection (d), a
 29 statement that tracts or items will be sold together.
- 30 (b) If within sixty (60) days before the date of the tax sale the county
 31 incurs costs set under subsection (a)(3)(D) and those costs are not paid,
 32 the county auditor shall enter the amount of costs that remain unpaid
 33 upon the tax duplicate of the property for which the costs were set. The
 34 county treasurer shall mail notice of unpaid costs entered upon a tax
 35 duplicate under this subsection to the owner of the property identified
 36 in the tax duplicate.
- 37 (c) The amount of unpaid costs entered upon a tax duplicate under
 38 subsection (b) must be paid no later than the date upon which the next
 39 installment of real estate taxes for the property is due. Unpaid costs
 40 entered upon a tax duplicate under subsection (b) are a lien against the
 41 property described in the tax duplicate, and amounts remaining unpaid
 42 on the date the next installment of real estate taxes is due may be

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1 collected in the same manner that delinquent property taxes are
2 collected.

3 (d) The county auditor and county treasurer may establish the
4 condition that a tract or item will be sold and may be redeemed under
5 this chapter only if the tract or item is sold or redeemed together with
6 one (1) or more other tracts or items. Property may be sold together
7 only if the tract or item is owned by the same person.

8 SECTION 105. IC 6-1.1-25-4.1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
9 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 4.1. (a) If, as provided
10 in ~~section 4(f)~~ **section 4(h)** of this chapter, the county auditor does not
11 issue a deed to the county for property for which a certificate of sale
12 has been issued to the county under IC 6-1.1-24-9 because the county
13 executive determines that the property contains hazardous waste or
14 another environmental hazard for which the cost of abatement or
15 alleviation will exceed the fair market value of the property, the
16 property may be transferred consistent with ~~the provisions of~~ this
17 section.

18 (b) A person who desires to obtain title to and eliminate the
19 hazardous conditions of property containing hazardous waste or
20 another environmental hazard for which a county holds a certificate of
21 sale but to which a deed may not be issued to the county under ~~section~~
22 ~~4(f)~~ **section 4(h)** of this chapter may file a petition with the county
23 auditor seeking a waiver of the delinquent taxes, special assessments,
24 interest, penalties, and costs assessed against the property and transfer
25 of the title to the property to the petitioner. The petition must:

- 26 (1) be on a form prescribed by the state board of accounts and
- 27 approved by the department of local government finance;
- 28 (2) state the amount of taxes, special assessments, penalties, and
- 29 costs assessed against the property for which a waiver is sought;
- 30 (3) describe the conditions existing on the property that have
- 31 prevented the sale or the transfer of title to the county;
- 32 (4) describe the plan of the petitioner for elimination of the
- 33 hazardous condition on the property under IC 13-25-5 and the
- 34 intended use of the property; and
- 35 (5) be accompanied by a fee established by the county auditor for
- 36 completion of a title search and processing.

37 (c) Upon receipt of a petition described in subsection (b), the county
38 auditor shall review the petition to determine whether the petition is
39 complete. If the petition is not complete, the county auditor shall return
40 the petition to the petitioner and describe the defects in the petition.
41 The petitioner may correct the defects and file the completed petition
42 with the county auditor. Upon receipt of a completed petition, the

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1 county auditor shall forward a copy of the petition to:

- 2 (1) the **county** assessor of the ~~township~~ **county** in which the
- 3 property is located;
- 4 (2) the owner;
- 5 (3) all persons who have, as of the date of the filing of the
- 6 petition, a substantial interest of public record in the property;
- 7 (4) the county property tax assessment board of appeals; and
- 8 (5) the department of local government finance.

9 (d) Upon receipt of a petition described in subsection (b), the county
10 property tax assessment board of appeals shall, at the county property
11 tax assessment board of appeals' earliest opportunity, conduct a public
12 hearing on the petition. The county property tax assessment board of
13 appeals shall, by mail, give notice of the date, time, and place fixed for
14 the hearing to:

- 15 (1) the petitioner;
- 16 (2) the owner;
- 17 (3) all persons who have, as of the date the petition was filed, a
- 18 substantial interest of public record in the property; and
- 19 (4) the **county** assessor of the ~~township~~ **county** in which the
- 20 property is located.

21 In addition, notice of the public hearing on the petition shall be
22 published one (1) time at least ten (10) days before the hearing in a
23 newspaper of countywide circulation and posted at the principal office
24 of the county property tax assessment board of appeals, or at the
25 building where the meeting is to be held.

26 (e) After the hearing and completion of any additional investigation
27 of the property or of the petitioner that is considered necessary by the
28 county property tax assessment board of appeals, the county board shall
29 give notice, by mail, to the parties listed in subsection (d) of the county
30 property tax assessment board of appeals' recommendation as to
31 whether the petition should be granted. The county property tax
32 assessment board of appeals shall forward to the department of local
33 government finance a copy of the county property tax assessment board
34 of appeals' recommendation and a copy of the documents submitted to
35 or collected by the county property tax assessment board of appeals at
36 the public hearing or during the course of the county board of appeals'
37 investigation of the petition.

38 (f) Upon receipt by the department of local government finance of
39 a recommendation by the county property tax assessment board of
40 appeals, the department of local government finance shall review the
41 petition and all other materials submitted by the county property tax
42 assessment board of appeals and determine whether to grant the

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petition. Notice of the determination by the department of local government finance and the right to seek an appeal of the determination shall be given by mail to:

- (1) the petitioner;
- (2) the owner;
- (3) all persons who have, as of the date the petition was filed, a substantial interest of public record in the property;
- (4) the **county** assessor of the ~~township~~ **county** in which the property is located; and
- (5) the county property tax assessment board of appeals.

(g) Any person aggrieved by a determination of the department of local government finance under subsection (f) may file an appeal seeking additional review by the department of local government finance and a public hearing. In order to obtain a review under this subsection, the aggrieved person must file a petition for appeal with the county auditor in the county where the tract or item of real property is located not more than thirty (30) days after issuance of notice of the determination of the department of local government finance. The county auditor shall transmit the petition for appeal to the department of local government finance not more than ten (10) days after the petition is filed.

(h) Upon receipt by the department of local government finance of an appeal, the department of local government finance shall set a date, time, and place for a hearing. The department of local government finance shall give notice, by mail, of the date, time, and place fixed for the hearing to:

- (1) the person filing the appeal;
- (2) the petitioner;
- (3) the owner;
- (4) all persons who have, as of the date the petition was filed, a substantial interest of public record in the property;
- (5) the **county** assessor of the ~~township~~ **county** in which the property is located; and
- (6) the county property tax assessment board of appeals.

The department of local government finance shall give the notices at least ten (10) days before the day fixed for the hearing.

(i) After the hearing, the department of local government finance shall give the parties listed in subsection (h) notice by mail of the final determination of the department of local government finance.

(j) If the department of local government finance decides to:

- (1) grant the petition submitted under subsection (b) after initial review of the petition under subsection (f) or after an appeal

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under subsection (h); and

(2) waive the taxes, special assessments, interest, penalties, and costs assessed against the property;

the department of local government finance shall issue to the county auditor an order directing the removal from the tax duplicate of the taxes, special assessments, interest, penalties, and costs for which the waiver is granted.

(k) After:

(1) at least thirty (30) days have passed since the issuance of a notice by the department of local government finance to the county property tax assessment board of appeals granting a petition filed under subsection (b), if no appeal has been filed; or
(2) not more than thirty (30) days after receipt by the county property tax assessment board of appeals of a notice of a final determination of the department of local government finance granting a petition filed under subsection (b) after an appeal has been filed and heard under subsection (h);

the county auditor shall file a verified petition and an application for an order on the petition in the court in which the judgment of sale was entered asking the court to direct the county auditor to issue a tax deed to the real property. The petition shall contain the certificate of sale issued to the county, a copy of the petition filed under subsection (b), and a copy of the notice of the final determination of the department of local government finance directing the county auditor to remove the taxes, interest, penalties, and costs from the tax duplicate. Notice of the filing of the petition and application for an order on the petition shall be given, by mail, to the owner and any person with a substantial interest of public record in the property. A person owning or having an interest in the property may appear to object to the petition.

(l) The court shall enter an order directing the county auditor to issue a tax deed to the petitioner under subsection (b) if the court finds that the following conditions exist:

(1) The time for redemption has expired.

(2) The property has not been redeemed before the expiration of the period of redemption specified in section 4 of this chapter.

(3) All taxes, special assessments, interest, penalties, and costs have been waived by the department of local government finance or, to the extent not waived, paid by the petitioner under subsection (b).

(4) All notices required by this section and sections 4.5 and 4.6 of this chapter have been given.

(5) The petitioner under subsection (b) has complied with all the

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provisions of law entitling the petitioner to a tax deed.

(m) A tax deed issued under this section is uncontestable except by appeal from the order of the court directing the county auditor to issue the tax deed. The appeal must be filed not later than sixty (60) days after the date of the court's order.

SECTION 106. IC 6-1.1-31-5 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 5. (a) Subject to this article, the rules adopted by the department of local government finance are the basis for determining the true tax value of tangible property.

(b) ~~Local~~ Assessing officials ~~members of the county property tax assessment board of appeals, and county assessors~~ shall:

- (1) comply with the rules, appraisal manuals, bulletins, and directives adopted by the department of local government finance;
- (2) use the property tax forms, property tax returns, and notice forms prescribed by the department; and
- (3) collect and record the data required by the department.

(c) In assessing tangible property, the ~~township assessors, members of the county property tax assessment board of appeals, and county assessors~~ **assessing officials** may consider factors in addition to those prescribed by the department of local government finance if the use of the additional factors is first approved by the department. Each ~~township assessor, of the county property tax assessment board of appeals, and the county assessor~~ **assessing official** shall indicate on his **the official's** records for each individual assessment whether:

- (1) only the factors contained in the department's rules, forms, and returns have been considered; or
- (2) factors in addition to those contained in the department's rules, forms, and returns have been considered.

SECTION 107. IC 6-1.1-31.5-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.228-2005, SECTION 25, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 2. (a) Subject to section 3.5(e) of this chapter, the department shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to prescribe computer specification standards and for the certification of:

- (1) computer software;
- (2) software providers;
- (3) computer service providers; and
- (4) computer equipment providers.

(b) The rules of the department shall provide for:

- (1) the effective and efficient administration of assessment laws;
- (2) the prompt updating of assessment data;
- (3) the administration of information contained in the sales

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disclosure form, as required under IC 6-1.1-5.5; and

(4) other information necessary to carry out the administration of the property tax assessment laws.

(c) After ~~December 31, 1998~~, **June 30, 2008**, subject to section 3.5(e) of this chapter a county:

(1) may contract only for computer software and with software providers, computer service providers, and equipment providers that are certified by the department under the rules described in subsection (a); **and**

(2) may enter into a contract referred to in subdivision (1) only if the department is a party to the contract.

~~(d) The initial rules under this section must be adopted under IC 4-22-2 before January 1, 1998.~~

SECTION 108. IC 6-1.1-31.5-3.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.228-2005, SECTION 26, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 3.5. (a) Until the system described in subsection (e) is implemented, each county shall maintain a state certified computer system that has the capacity to:

- (1) process and maintain assessment records;
- (2) process and maintain standardized property tax forms;
- (3) process and maintain standardized property assessment notices;
- (4) maintain complete and accurate assessment records for the county; and
- (5) process and compute complete and accurate assessments in accordance with Indiana law.

The county assessor with the recommendation of the township assessors shall select the computer system. ~~used by township assessors and the county assessor in the county except in a county with an elected township assessor in every township. In a county with an elected township assessor in every township, the elected township assessors shall select a computer system based on a majority vote of the township assessors in the county.~~

(b) All information on a computer system referred to in subsection (a) shall be readily accessible to:

- ~~(1) township assessors;~~
- ~~(2) the county assessor;~~
- ~~(3) (1) the department of local government finance; and~~
- ~~(4) members of the county property tax assessment board of appeals.~~
- (2) assessing officials.**

(c) The certified system referred to in subsection (a) used by the

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counties must be:

(1) compatible with the data export and transmission requirements in a standard format prescribed by the office of technology established by IC 4-13.1-2-1 and approved by the legislative services agency; and

(2) maintained in a manner that ensures prompt and accurate transfer of data to the department of local government finance and the legislative services agency.

(d) All standardized property forms and notices on the certified computer system referred to in subsection (a) shall be maintained by the ~~township assessor and the~~ county assessor in an accessible location and in a format that is easily understandable for use by persons of the county.

(e) The department shall adopt rules before ~~July 1, 2006~~, **December 31, 2008**, for the establishment of:

(1) **a single state-designed software system to provide a uniform and common property tax management system among for** all counties that:

(A) includes a combined mass appraisal and county auditor system integrated with a county treasurer system; and

(B) replaces the computer system referred to in subsection (a); and

(2) a schedule for implementation of the system referred to in subdivision (1) structured to result in the implementation of the system in all counties with respect to an assessment date:

(A) determined by the department; and

(B) specified in the rule.

(f) The department shall appoint an advisory committee to assist the department in the formulation of the rules referred to in subsection (e). The department shall determine the number of members of the committee. The committee:

(1) must include at least:

~~(A) one (1) township assessor;~~

~~(B)~~ (A) one (1) county assessor;

~~(C)~~ (B) one (1) county auditor; and

~~(D)~~ (C) one (1) county treasurer; and

(2) shall meet at times and locations determined by the department.

(g) Each member of the committee appointed under subsection (f) who is not a state employee is not entitled to the minimum salary per diem provided by IC 4-10-11-2.1(b). The member is entitled to reimbursement for traveling expenses as provided under IC 4-13-1-4

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1 and other expenses actually incurred in connection with the member's
 2 duties as provided in the state policies and procedures established by
 3 the Indiana department of administration and approved by the budget
 4 agency.

5 (h) Each member of the committee appointed under subsection (f)
 6 who is a state employee is entitled to reimbursement for traveling
 7 expenses as provided under IC 4-13-1-4 and other expenses actually
 8 incurred in connection with the member's duties as provided in the state
 9 policies and procedures established by the Indiana department of
 10 administration and approved by the budget agency.

11 (i) ~~The department shall report to the budget committee in writing~~
 12 ~~the department's estimate of the cost of implementation of the system~~
 13 ~~referred to in subsection (e):~~

14 SECTION 109. IC 6-1.1-31.7-1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 15 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 1. As used in this
 16 chapter, "appraiser" refers to a professional appraiser or a professional
 17 appraisal firm that contracts with a ~~township or~~ county under
 18 IC 6-1.1-4.

19 SECTION 110. IC 6-1.1-31.7-3 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 20 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 3. (a) The department
 21 shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 for the certification and regulation of
 22 appraisers.

23 (b) **Subject to subsection (d)**, the rules of the department shall
 24 provide for the following:

- 25 (1) Minimum appraiser qualifications.
- 26 (2) Minimum appraiser certification, training, and recertification
- 27 requirements.
- 28 (3) Sanctions for noncompliance with assessing laws and the rules
- 29 of the department, including laws and rules that set time
- 30 requirements for the completion of assessments.
- 31 (4) Appraiser contract requirements.
- 32 (5) Other provisions necessary to carry out the administration of
- 33 the property tax assessment laws.

34 (c) After December 31, 1998, a county or township may contract
 35 only with appraisers that are certified by the department under the rules
 36 described in subsection (a).

37 (d) **The rules referred to in subsection (b) that apply to**
 38 **contracts with appraisers entered into after December 31, 2008,**
 39 **must include level two assessor-appraiser certification under**
 40 **IC 6-1.1-35.5 as part of the minimum appraiser qualifications for**
 41 **each appraiser that performs assessments on behalf of the**
 42 **contractor.**

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SECTION 111. IC 6-1.1-35-1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 1. The department of local government finance shall:

- (1) interpret the property tax laws of this state;
- (2) instruct property tax officials about their taxation and assessment duties; ~~and ensure that the county assessors, township assessors, and assessing officials are in compliance with section 1.1 of this chapter;~~
- (3) see that all property assessments are made in the manner provided by law; and
- (4) develop and maintain a manual for all assessing officials and county assessors concerning:
 - (A) assessment duties and responsibilities of the various state and local officials;
 - (B) assessment procedures and time limits for the completion of assessment duties;
 - (C) changes in state assessment laws; and
 - (D) other matters relevant to the assessment duties of assessing officials, county assessors, and other county officials.

SECTION 112. IC 6-1.1-35-9 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 9. (a) All information that is related to earnings, income, profits, losses, or expenditures and that is:

- (1) given by a person to:
 - (A) an assessing official;
 - ~~(B) a member of a county property tax assessment board of appeals;~~
 - ~~(C) a county assessor;~~
 - ~~(D) (B) an employee of a person referred to in clauses (A) through (C); an assessing official; or~~
 - ~~(E) (C) an officer or employee of an entity that contracts with a board of county commissioners or a county assessor or an elected township assessor under IC 6-1.1-36-12; or~~
- (2) acquired by:
 - (A) an assessing official;
 - ~~(B) a member of a county property tax assessment board of appeals;~~
 - ~~(C) a county assessor;~~
 - ~~(D) (B) an employee of a person referred to in clauses (A) through (C); an assessing official; or~~
 - ~~(E) (C) an officer or employee of an entity that contracts with~~

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1 a board of county commissioners ~~or~~ a county assessor ~~or an~~
 2 ~~elected township assessor~~ under IC 6-1.1-36-12;
 3 in the performance of the person's duties;
 4 is confidential. The assessed valuation of tangible property is a matter
 5 of public record and is thus not confidential. Confidential information
 6 may be disclosed only in a manner that is authorized under subsection
 7 (b), (c), or (d).

8 (b) Confidential information may be disclosed to:

9 (1) an official or employee of:

10 (A) this state or another state;

11 (B) the United States; or

12 (C) an agency or subdivision of this state, another state, or the
 13 United States;

14 if the information is required in the performance of the official
 15 duties of the official or employee; or

16 (2) an officer or employee of an entity that contracts with a board
 17 of county commissioners ~~or~~ a county assessor ~~or an elected~~
 18 ~~township assessor~~ under IC 6-1.1-36-12 if the information is
 19 required in the performance of the official duties of the officer or
 20 employee.

21 (c) The following state agencies, or their authorized representatives,
 22 shall have access to the confidential farm property records and
 23 schedules that are on file in the office of a county ~~or township~~ assessor:

24 (1) The Indiana state board of animal health, in order to perform
 25 its duties concerning the discovery and eradication of farm animal
 26 diseases.

27 (2) The department of agricultural statistics of Purdue University,
 28 in order to perform its duties concerning the compilation and
 29 dissemination of agricultural statistics. ~~and~~

30 (3) Any other state agency that needs the information in order to
 31 perform its duties.

32 (d) Confidential information may be disclosed during the course of
 33 a judicial proceeding in which the regularity of an assessment is
 34 questioned.

35 (e) Confidential information that is disclosed to a person under
 36 subsection (b) or (c) retains its confidential status. Thus, that person
 37 may disclose the information only in a manner that is authorized under
 38 subsection (b), (c), or (d).

39 (f) Notwithstanding any other provision of law:

40 (1) a person who:

41 (A) is an officer or employee of an entity that contracts with a
 42 board of county commissioners ~~or~~ a county assessor ~~or an~~

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- 1 ~~elected township assessor~~ under IC 6-1.1-36-12; and
 2 (B) obtains confidential information under this section;
 3 may not disclose that confidential information to any other
 4 person; and
 5 (2) a person referred to in subdivision (1) must return all
 6 confidential information to the taxpayer not later than fourteen
 7 (14) days after the earlier of:
 8 (A) the completion of the examination of the taxpayer's
 9 personal property return under IC 6-1.1-36-12; or
 10 (B) the termination of the contract.

11 SECTION 113. IC 6-1.1-35-11 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 12 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 11. (a) An assessing
 13 official ~~member of a county property tax assessment board of appeals;~~
 14 ~~a state board member;~~ or an employee of ~~any~~ **an** assessing official
 15 ~~county assessor; or board~~ shall immediately be dismissed from that
 16 position if the person discloses in an unauthorized manner any
 17 information that is classified as confidential under section 9 of this
 18 chapter.

19 (b) If an officer or employee of an entity that contracts with a board
 20 of county commissioners ~~or a county assessor or an elected township~~
 21 ~~assessor~~ under IC 6-1.1-36-12 discloses in an unauthorized manner any
 22 information that is classified as confidential under section 9 of this
 23 chapter:

- 24 (1) the contract between the entity and the board is void as of the
 25 date of the disclosure;
 26 (2) the entity forfeits all right to payments owed under the
 27 contract after the date of disclosure;
 28 (3) the entity and its affiliates are barred for three (3) years after
 29 the date of disclosure from entering into a contract with a board
 30 ~~or a county assessor or an elected township assessor~~ under
 31 IC 6-1.1-36-12; and
 32 (4) the taxpayer whose information was disclosed has a right of
 33 action for triple damages against the entity.

34 SECTION 114. IC 6-1.1-35.2-2 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 35 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 2. (a) In any year in
 36 which an assessing official ~~or a county assessor~~ takes office for the first
 37 time, the department of local government finance shall conduct training
 38 sessions determined under the rules adopted by the department under
 39 IC 4-22-2 for ~~these the~~ new assessing officials. ~~and county assessors.~~
 40 ~~These~~ **The** sessions must be held at the locations described in
 41 subsection (b).

42 (b) To ensure that all newly elected or appointed assessing officials

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1 ~~and assessors~~ have an opportunity to attend the training sessions
 2 required by this section, the department of local government finance
 3 shall conduct the training sessions at a minimum of four (4) separate
 4 regional locations. The department shall determine the locations of the
 5 training sessions, but:

6 (1) at least one (1) training session must be held in the
 7 northeastern part of Indiana;

8 (2) at least one (1) training session must be held in the
 9 northwestern part of Indiana;

10 (3) at least one (1) training session must be held in the
 11 southeastern part of Indiana; and

12 (4) at least one (1) training session must be held in the
 13 southwestern part of Indiana.

14 The four (4) regional training sessions may not be held in Indianapolis.
 15 However, the department of local government finance may, after the
 16 conclusion of the four (4) training sessions, provide additional training
 17 sessions at locations determined by the department.

18 (c) Any new assessing official ~~or county assessor~~ who attends:

19 (1) a required session during the official's ~~or assessor's~~ term of
 20 office; or

21 (2) training between the date the person is elected to office and
 22 January 1 of the year the person takes office for the first time;

23 is entitled to receive the per diem per session set by the department of
 24 local government finance by rule adopted under IC 4-22-2 and a
 25 mileage allowance from the county in which the official resides.

26 (d) A person is entitled to a mileage allowance under this section
 27 only for travel between the person's place of work and the training
 28 session nearest to the person's place of work.

29 SECTION 115. IC 6-1.1-35.2-3 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 30 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 3. (a) Each year the
 31 department of local government finance shall conduct the continuing
 32 education sessions required in the rules adopted by the department for
 33 all assessing officials ~~county assessors~~, and all ~~members of~~, and
 34 hearing officers for the county property tax assessment board of
 35 appeals. These sessions must be conducted at the locations described
 36 in subsection (b).

37 (b) To ensure that all assessing officials ~~assessors, and members of~~
 38 ~~county property tax assessment boards of appeals and hearing officers~~
 39 have an opportunity to attend the continuing education sessions
 40 required by this section, the department of local government finance
 41 shall conduct the continuing education sessions at a minimum of four
 42 (4) separate regional locations. The department shall determine the

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locations of the continuing education sessions, but:

- (1) at least one (1) continuing education session must be held in the northeastern part of Indiana;
- (2) at least one (1) continuing education session must be held in the northwestern part of Indiana;
- (3) at least one (1) continuing education session must be held in the southeastern part of Indiana; and
- (4) at least one (1) continuing education session must be held in the southwestern part of Indiana.

The four (4) regional continuing education sessions may not be held in Indianapolis. However, the department of local government finance may, after the conclusion of the four (4) continuing education sessions, provide additional continuing education sessions at locations determined by the department.

(c) Any assessing official ~~county assessor~~, or ~~member of~~, and hearing ~~officers~~ **officer** for the county property tax assessment board of appeals who attends required sessions is entitled to receive a mileage allowance and the per diem per session set by the department of local government finance by rule adopted under IC 4-22-2 from the county in which the official resides. A person is entitled to a mileage allowance under this section only for travel between the person's place of work and the training session nearest to the person's place of work.

SECTION 116. IC 6-1.1-35.2-5 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 5. A county that is required to make a payment to an assessing official ~~a county assessor~~, or ~~member of~~, and ~~a~~ hearing ~~officers~~ **officer** for the county property tax assessment board of appeals under this chapter must make the payment regardless of an appropriation. The payment may be made from the county's ~~cumulative~~ reassessment fund.

SECTION 117. IC 6-1.1-35.5-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.219-2007, SECTION 79, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 7. (a) With respect to level one and level two certifications, the department of local government finance shall establish a fair and reasonable fee for examination and certification under this chapter. However, the fee does not apply to an ~~elected~~ assessing official, a ~~county assessor~~, a ~~member of~~, and hearing ~~officers~~ **officer** for a county property tax assessment board of appeals, or an employee of an ~~elected~~ assessing official ~~county assessor~~, or county property tax assessment board of appeals who is taking the level one examination or the level two examination for the first time.

(b) The assessing official training account is established as an account within the state general fund. All fees collected by the

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department of local government finance shall be deposited in the account. The account shall be administered by the department of local government finance and does not revert to the state general fund at the end of a fiscal year. The department of local government finance may use money in the account for:

(1) testing and training of assessing officials, county assessors, members of a county property tax assessment board of appeals, and employees of assessing officials, county assessors, or the county property tax assessment board of appeals; and

(2) administration of the level three certification program under section 4.5 of this chapter.

SECTION 118. IC 6-1.1-36-3 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 3. (a) A ~~township assessor's assessment or a county assessor's assessment~~ of property is valid even if:

(1) ~~he the assessor~~ does not complete, or notify the county auditor of, the assessment by the time prescribed under IC 6-1.1-3 or IC 6-1.1-4;

(2) there is an irregularity or informality in the manner in which ~~he the assessor~~ makes the assessment; or

(3) there is an irregularity or informality in the tax list.

An irregularity or informality in the assessment or the tax list may be corrected at any time.

(b) This section does not release a ~~township assessor or county assessor~~ from any duty to give notice or from any penalty imposed on ~~him the assessor~~ by law for ~~his the assessor's~~ failure to make ~~his the assessor's~~ return within the time ~~period~~ prescribed in IC 6-1.1-3 or IC 6-1.1-4.

SECTION 119. IC 6-1.1-36-4 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 4. (a) An assessing official ~~a county assessor, a member of a county property tax assessment board of appeals,~~ or a representative of the department of local government finance may file an affidavit with a circuit court of this state if:

(1) the official ~~or board member~~ or a representative ~~of the official or board~~ has requested that a person give information or produce books or records; and

(2) the person has not complied with the request.

The affidavit must state that the person has not complied with the request.

(b) When an affidavit is filed under subsection (a), the circuit court shall issue a writ which directs the person to appear at the office of the

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official or ~~board member~~ **representative** and to give the requested information or produce the requested books or records. The appropriate county sheriff shall serve the writ. A person who disobeys the writ is guilty of contempt of court.

(c) If a writ is issued under this section, the cost incurred in filing the affidavit, in the issuance of the writ, and in the service of the writ shall be charged to the person against whom the writ is issued. If a writ is not issued, all costs shall be charged to the county in which the circuit court proceedings are held, and the board of commissioners of that county shall allow a claim for the costs.

SECTION 120. IC 6-1.1-36-5 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 5. In order to discharge their official duties, the following officials may administer oaths and affirmations:

~~(1) Assessing officials:~~

~~(2) (1) County assessors.~~

~~(3) (2) County auditors.~~

~~(4) (3) Members of a county property tax assessment board of appeals.~~

~~(5) (4) Members of the Indiana board.~~

SECTION 121. IC 6-1.1-36-7 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 7. (a) The department of local government finance may cancel any property taxes assessed against real property owned by a county, township, city, or town if a petition requesting that the department cancel the taxes is submitted by the auditor, assessor, and treasurer of the county in which the real property is located.

(b) The department of local government finance may cancel any property taxes assessed against real property owned by this state if a petition requesting that the department cancel the taxes is submitted by:

(1) the governor; or

(2) the chief administrative officer of the state agency which supervises the real property.

However, if the petition is submitted by the chief administrative officer of a state agency, the governor must approve the petition.

(c) The department of local government finance may compromise the amount of property taxes, together with any interest or penalties on those taxes, assessed against the fixed or distributable property owned by a bankrupt railroad, which is under the jurisdiction of:

(1) a federal court under 11 U.S.C. 1163;

(2) Chapter X of the Acts of Congress Relating to Bankruptcy (11 U.S.C. 701-799); or

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(3) a comparable bankruptcy law.

(d) After making a compromise under subsection (c) and after receiving payment of the compromised amount, the department of local government finance shall distribute to each county treasurer an amount equal to the product of:

(1) the compromised amount; multiplied by

(2) a fraction, the numerator of which is the total of the particular county's property tax levies against the railroad for the compromised years, and the denominator of which is the total of all property tax levies against the railroad for the compromised years.

(e) After making the distribution under subsection (d), the department of local government finance shall direct the auditors of each county to remove from the tax rolls the amount of all property taxes assessed against the bankrupt railroad for the compromised years.

(f) The county auditor of each county receiving money under subsection (d) shall allocate that money among the county's taxing districts. The auditor shall allocate to each taxing district an amount equal to the product of:

(1) the amount of money received by the county under subsection (d); multiplied by

(2) a fraction, the numerator of which is the total of the taxing district's property tax levies against the railroad for the compromised years, and the denominator of which is the total of all property tax levies against the railroad in that county for the compromised years.

(g) The money allocated to each taxing district shall be apportioned and distributed among the taxing units of that taxing district in the same manner and at the same time that property taxes are apportioned and distributed.

(h) The department of local government finance may, with the approval of the attorney general, compromise the amount of property taxes, together with any interest or penalties on those taxes, assessed against property owned by a person that has a case pending under state or federal bankruptcy law. Property taxes that are compromised under this section shall be distributed and allocated at the same time and in the same manner as regularly collected property taxes. The department of local government finance may compromise property taxes under this subsection only if:

(1) a petition is filed with the department of local government finance that requests the compromise and ~~that~~ is signed and approved by the assessor, auditor, and treasurer of each county

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1 ~~and the assessor of each township~~ that is entitled to receive any
2 part of the compromised taxes;

3 (2) the compromise significantly advances the time of payment of
4 the taxes; and

5 (3) the compromise is in the best interest of the state and the
6 taxing units that are entitled to receive any part of the
7 compromised taxes.

8 (i) A taxing unit that receives funds under this section is not
9 required to include the funds in its budget estimate for any budget year
10 which begins after the budget year in which it receives the funds.

11 (j) A county treasurer, with the consent of the county auditor and the
12 county assessor, may compromise the amount of property taxes,
13 interest, or penalties owed in a county by an entity that has a case
14 pending under Title 11 of the United States Code (Bankruptcy Code)
15 by accepting a single payment that must be at least seventy-five percent
16 (75%) of the total amount owed in the county.

17 SECTION 122. IC 6-1.1-36-12, AS AMENDED BY P.L.154-2006,
18 SECTION 54, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
19 JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 12. (a) A board of county commissioners ~~or a~~
20 county assessor ~~or an elected township assessor~~ may enter into a
21 contract for the discovery of property that has been undervalued or
22 omitted from assessment. The contract must prohibit payment to the
23 contractor for discovery of undervaluation or omission with respect to
24 a parcel or personal property return before all appeals of the assessment
25 of the parcel or the assessment under the return have been finalized.
26 The contract may require the contractor to:

27 (1) examine and verify the accuracy of personal property returns
28 filed by taxpayers ~~with a township assessor of a township~~ in the
29 county; and

30 (2) compare a return with the books of the taxpayer and with
31 personal property owned, held, possessed, controlled, or occupied
32 by the taxpayer.

33 (b) This subsection applies if funds are not appropriated for
34 payment of services performed under a contract described in subsection
35 (a). The county auditor may create a special nonreverting fund in which
36 the county treasurer shall deposit the amount of taxes, including
37 penalties and interest, that result from additional assessments on
38 undervalued or omitted property collected from all taxing jurisdictions
39 in the county after deducting the amount of any property tax credits that
40 reduce the owner's property tax liability for the undervalued or omitted
41 property. The fund remains in existence during the term of the contract.
42 Distributions shall be made from the fund without appropriation only

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for the following purposes:

(1) All contract fees and other costs related to the contract.

(2) After the payments required by subdivision (1) have been made and the contract has expired, the county auditor shall distribute all money remaining in the fund to the appropriate taxing units in the county using the property tax rates of each taxing unit in effect at the time of the distribution.

(c) A board of county commissioners ~~or~~ a county assessor ~~or an elected township assessor~~ may not contract for services under subsection (a) on a percentage basis.

SECTION 123. IC 6-1.1-36-13 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 13. When a political subdivision is formed, the auditor of the county in which the political subdivision is situated shall, at the written request of the legislative body of the political subdivision, prepare a list of all the lands and lots within the limits of the political subdivision, and the county auditor shall deliver the list to the ~~appropriate township~~ **county** assessor on or before the assessment date which immediately follows the date of incorporation. The county auditor shall use the records in the auditor's office in order to compile the list.

SECTION 124. IC 6-1.1-37-2 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 2. ~~A county or township~~ **An assessing official member of a county or state board, or employee or a representative of such an official or board the department of local government finance** who:

(1) knowingly assesses any property at more or less than what ~~he~~ **the official or representative** believes is the proper assessed value of the property;

(2) knowingly fails to perform any of the duties imposed on ~~him~~ **the official or representative** under the general assessment provisions of this article; or

(3) recklessly violates any of the other general assessment provisions of this article;

commits a Class A misdemeanor.

SECTION 125. IC 6-1.1-37-7 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 7. (a) If a person fails to file a required personal property return on or before the due date, the county auditor shall add a penalty of twenty-five dollars (\$25) to the person's next property tax installment. The county auditor shall also add an additional penalty to the taxes payable by the person if ~~he~~ **the person** fails to file the personal property return within thirty (30) days after the due date. The amount of the additional penalty is twenty

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percent (20%) of the taxes finally determined to be due with respect to the personal property which should have been reported on the return.

(b) For purposes of this section, a personal property return is not due until the expiration of any extension period granted by the ~~township~~ **county** assessor under IC 6-1.1-3-7(b).

(c) The penalties prescribed under this section do not apply to an individual or ~~his~~ **the individual's** dependents if ~~he~~ **the individual**:

(1) is in the military or naval forces of the United States on the assessment date; and

(2) is covered by the federal Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act.

(d) If a person subject to IC 6-1.1-3-7(d) fails to include on a personal property return the information, if any, that the department of local government finance requires under IC 6-1.1-3-9 or IC 6-1.1-5-13, the county auditor shall add a penalty to the property tax installment next due for the return. The amount of the penalty is twenty-five dollars (\$25).

(e) If the total assessed value that a person reports on a personal property return is less than the total assessed value that the person is required by law to report and if the amount of the undervaluation exceeds five percent (5%) of the value that should have been reported on the return, then the county auditor shall add a penalty of twenty percent (20%) of the additional taxes finally determined to be due as a result of the undervaluation. The penalty shall be added to the property tax installment next due for the return on which the property was undervalued. If a person has complied with all of the requirements for claiming a deduction, an exemption, or an adjustment for abnormal obsolescence, then the increase in assessed value that results from a denial of the deduction, exemption, or adjustment for abnormal obsolescence is not considered to result from an undervaluation for purposes of this subsection.

(f) A penalty is due with an installment under subsection (a), (d), or (e) whether or not an appeal is filed under IC 6-1.1-15-5 with respect to the tax due on that installment.

SECTION 126. IC 6-1.1-37-7.5 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 7.5. A person who fails to provide, within forty-five (45) days after the filing deadline, evidence of the filing of a personal property return to the **county** assessor ~~of the township in which the owner resides~~, as required under IC 6-1.1-3-1(d), shall pay to the ~~township in which the owner resides~~, **county** a penalty equal to ten percent (10%) of the tax liability.

SECTION 127. IC 6-1.1-37-8 IS AMENDED TO READ AS

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1 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 8. A ~~township~~ **county**
 2 assessor shall inform the county auditor of any vending machine which
 3 does not, as required under ~~IC 1971~~, IC 6-1.1-3-8, have an
 4 identification device on its face. The county auditor shall then add a
 5 one dollar (~~\$1.00~~) (**\$1**) penalty to the next property tax installment of
 6 the person on whose premises the machine is located.

7 SECTION 128. IC 6-1.1-37-10.7, AS ADDED BY P.L.67-2006,
 8 SECTION 12, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 9 JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 10.7. (a) For purposes of this section, "immediate
 10 family member of the taxpayer" means an individual who:

- 11 (1) is the spouse, child, stepchild, parent, or stepparent of the
 12 taxpayer, including adoptive relationships; and
 13 (2) resides in the taxpayer's home.

14 (b) The county treasurer shall do the following:

- 15 (1) Waive the penalty imposed under section 10(a) of this chapter
 16 if the taxpayer or the taxpayer's representative:

17 (A) petitions the county treasurer to waive the penalty not later
 18 than thirty (30) days after the due date of the installment
 19 subject to the penalty; and

20 (B) files with the petition written proof that during the seven
 21 (7) day period ending on the installment due date the taxpayer
 22 or an immediate family member of the taxpayer died.

- 23 (2) Give written notice to the taxpayer or the taxpayer's
 24 representative by mail of the treasurer's determination on the
 25 petition not later than thirty (30) days after the petition is filed
 26 with the treasurer.

27 (c) The department of local government finance shall prescribe:

- 28 (1) the form of the petition; and
 29 (2) the type of written proof;

30 required under subsection (b).

31 (d) A taxpayer or a taxpayer's representative may appeal a
 32 determination of the county treasurer under subsection (b) to deny a
 33 penalty waiver by **filing a notice** in writing ~~a preliminary conference~~
 34 with the treasurer not more than forty-five (45) days after the treasurer
 35 gives the taxpayer or the taxpayer's representative notice of the
 36 determination. An appeal initiated under this subsection is processed
 37 and determined in the same manner that an appeal is processed and
 38 determined under IC 6-1.1-15.

39 SECTION 129. IC 6-1.1-42-27 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 40 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 27. (a) A property
 41 owner who desires to obtain the deduction provided by section 24 of
 42 this chapter must file a certified deduction application, on forms

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prescribed by the department of local government finance, with the auditor of the county in which the property is located. Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b) or (e), the deduction application must be filed before May 10 of the year in which the addition to assessed valuation is made.

(b) If notice of the addition to assessed valuation or new assessment for any year is not given to the property owner before April 10 of that year, the deduction application required by this section may be filed not later than thirty (30) days after the date such a notice is mailed to the property owner at the address shown on the records of the ~~township~~ **county** assessor.

(c) The certified deduction application required by this section must contain the following information:

- (1) The name of each owner of the property.
- (2) A certificate of completion of a voluntary remediation under IC 13-25-5-16.
- (3) Proof that each owner who is applying for the deduction:
 - (A) has never had an ownership interest in an entity that contributed; and
 - (B) has not contributed;
 a contaminant (as defined in IC 13-11-2-42) that is the subject of the voluntary remediation, as determined under the written standards adopted by the department of environmental management.
- (4) Proof that the deduction was approved by the appropriate designating body.
- (5) A description of the property for which a deduction is claimed in sufficient detail to afford identification.
- (6) The assessed value of the improvements before remediation and redevelopment.
- (7) The increase in the assessed value of improvements resulting from remediation and redevelopment.
- (8) The amount of the deduction claimed for the first year of the deduction.

(d) A certified deduction application filed under subsection (a) or (b) is applicable for the year in which the addition to assessed value or assessment of property is made and each subsequent year to which the deduction applies under the resolution adopted under section 24 of this chapter.

(e) A property owner who desires to obtain the deduction provided by section 24 of this chapter but who has failed to file a deduction application within the dates prescribed in subsection (a) or (b) may file

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a deduction application between March 1 and May 10 of a subsequent year which is applicable for the year filed and the subsequent years without any additional certified deduction application being filed for the amounts of the deduction which would be applicable to such years under this chapter if such a deduction application had been filed in accordance with subsection (a) or (b).

(f) On verification of the correctness of a certified deduction application by the **county** assessor of the **township county** in which the property is located, the county auditor shall, if the property is covered by a resolution adopted under section 24 of this chapter, make the appropriate deduction.

(g) The amount and period of the deduction provided for property by section 24 of this chapter are not affected by a change in the ownership of the property if the new owner of the property:

(1) is a person that:

(A) has never had an ownership interest in an entity that contributed; and

(B) has not contributed;

a contaminant (as defined in IC 13-11-2-42) that is the subject of the voluntary remediation, as determined under the written standards adopted by the department of environmental management;

(2) continues to use the property in compliance with any standards established under sections 7 and 23 of this chapter; and

(3) files an application in the manner provided by subsection (e).

(h) The **township county** assessor shall include a notice of the deadlines for filing a deduction application under subsections (a) and (b) with each notice to a property owner of an addition to assessed value or of a new assessment.

SECTION 130. IC 6-1.1-45.5-3, AS ADDED BY P.L.208-2005, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 3. On receipt of a petition under section 2 of this chapter, the county auditor shall determine whether the petition is complete. If the petition is not complete, the county auditor shall return the petition to the petitioner and describe the defects in the petition. The petitioner may correct the defects and file the completed petition with the county auditor. On receipt of a complete petition, the county auditor shall forward a copy of the complete petition to:

(1) the **county** assessor of the **township county** in which the brownfield is located;

(2) the owner, if different from the petitioner;

(3) all persons that have, as of the date of the filing of the petition,

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- a substantial property interest of public record in the brownfield;
- (4) the board;
- (5) the fiscal body;
- (6) the department of environmental management; and
- (7) the department.

SECTION 131. IC 6-1.1-45.5-4, AS ADDED BY P.L.208-2005, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 4. On receipt of a complete petition as provided under sections 2 and 3 of this chapter, the board shall at its earliest opportunity conduct a public hearing on the petition. The board shall give notice of the date, time, and place fixed for the hearing:

- (1) by mail to:
 - (A) the petitioner;
 - (B) the owner, if different from the petitioner;
 - (C) all persons that have, as of the date the petition was filed, a substantial interest of public record in the brownfield; and
 - (D) the **county** assessor of the **township county** in which the brownfield is located; and
- (2) under IC 5-3-1.

SECTION 132. IC 6-1.1-45.5-8, AS ADDED BY P.L.208-2005, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 8. (a) The department shall give notice of its determination under section 7 of this chapter and the right to seek an appeal of the determination by mail to:

- (1) the petitioner;
- (2) the owner, if different from the petitioner;
- (3) all persons that have, as of the date the petition was filed under section 2 of this chapter, a substantial property interest of public record in the brownfield;
- (4) the **county** assessor of the **township county** in which the brownfield is located;
- (5) the board;
- (6) the fiscal body; and
- (7) the county auditor.

(b) A person aggrieved by a determination of the department under section 7 of this chapter may obtain an additional review by the department and a public hearing by filing a petition for review with the county auditor of the county in which the brownfield is located not more than thirty (30) days after the department gives notice of the determination under subsection (a). The county auditor shall transmit the petition to the department not more than ten (10) days after the petition is filed.

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(c) On receipt by the department of a petition for review, the department shall set a date, time, and place for a hearing. At least ten (10) days before the date fixed for the hearing, the department shall give notice by mail of the date, time, and place fixed for the hearing to:

- (1) the person that filed the appeal;
- (2) the petitioner;
- (3) the owner, if different from the petitioner;
- (4) all persons that have, as of the date the petition is filed, a substantial interest of public record in the brownfield;
- (5) the **county** assessor of the ~~township~~ **county** in which the brownfield is located;
- (6) the board;
- (7) the fiscal body; and
- (8) the county auditor.

(d) After the hearing, the department shall give the parties listed in subsection (c) notice by mail of the final determination of the department. The department's final determination under this subsection is subject to the limitations in subsections (f)(2) and (g).

(e) The petitioner under section 2 of this chapter shall provide to the county auditor reasonable proof of ownership of the brownfield:

- (1) if a petition is not filed under subsection (b), at least thirty (30) days but not more than one hundred twenty (120) days after notice is given under subsection (a); or
- (2) after notice is given under subsection (d) but not more than ninety (90) days after notice is given under subsection (d).

(f) The county auditor:

- (1) shall, subject to subsection (g), reduce or remove the delinquent tax liability on the tax duplicate in the amount stated in:

(A) if a petition is not filed under subsection (b), the determination of the department under section 7 of this chapter; or

(B) the final determination of the department under this section;

not more than thirty (30) days after receipt of the proof of ownership required in subsection (e); and

- (2) may not reduce or remove any delinquent tax liability on the tax duplicate if the petitioner under section 2 of this chapter fails to provide proof of ownership as required in subsection (e).

(g) A reduction or removal of delinquent tax liability under subsection (f) applies until the county auditor makes a determination under this subsection. After the date referred to in section 2(6) of this

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chapter, the county auditor shall determine if the petitioner successfully completed the plan described in section 2(5) of this chapter by that date. If the county auditor determines that the petitioner completed the plan by that date, the reduction or removal of delinquent tax liability under subsection (f) becomes permanent. If the county auditor determines that the petitioner did not complete the plan by that date, the county auditor shall restore to the tax duplicate the delinquent taxes reduced or removed under subsection (f), along with interest in the amount that would have applied if the delinquent taxes had not been reduced or removed.

SECTION 133. IC 6-1.5-5-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.219-2007, SECTION 89, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 2. (a) After receiving a petition for review that is filed under a statute listed in section 1(a) of this chapter, the Indiana board shall, at its earliest opportunity:

- (1) conduct a hearing; or
- (2) cause a hearing to be conducted by an administrative law judge.

The Indiana board may determine to conduct the hearing under subdivision (1) on its own motion or on request of a party to the appeal.

(b) In its resolution of a petition, the Indiana board may correct any errors that may have been made and adjust the assessment in accordance with the correction.

(c) The Indiana board shall give notice of the date fixed for the hearing by mail to:

- (1) the taxpayer;
- (2) the department of local government finance; and
- (3) the appropriate:
 - (A) township assessor **(if any)**;
 - (B) county assessor; and
 - (C) county auditor.

(d) With respect to an appeal of the assessment of real property or personal property filed after June 30, 2005, the notices required under subsection (c) must include the following:

- (1) The action of the department of local government finance with respect to the appealed items.
- (2) A statement that a taxing unit receiving the notice from the county auditor under subsection (e) may:
 - (A) attend the hearing;
 - (B) offer testimony; and
 - (C) file an amicus curiae brief in the proceeding.

(e) If, after receiving notice of a hearing under subsection (c), the

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1 county auditor determines that the assessed value of the appealed items
 2 constitutes at least one percent (1%) of the total gross certified assessed
 3 value of a particular taxing unit for the assessment date immediately
 4 preceding the assessment date for which the appeal was filed, the
 5 county auditor shall send a copy of the notice to the affected taxing
 6 unit. A taxing unit that receives a notice from the county auditor under
 7 this subsection is not a party to the appeal. Failure of the county auditor
 8 to send a copy of the notice to the affected taxing unit does not affect
 9 the validity of the appeal or delay the appeal.

10 (f) The Indiana board shall give the notices required under
 11 subsection (c) at least thirty (30) days before the day fixed for the
 12 hearing.

13 SECTION 134. IC 6-1.5-5-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.154-2006,
 14 SECTION 63, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 15 JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 5. After the hearing, the Indiana board shall give
 16 the petitioner, ~~the township assessor~~ the county assessor, the county
 17 auditor, and the department of local government finance:

18 (1) notice, by mail, of its final determination, findings of fact, and
 19 conclusions of law; and

20 (2) notice of the procedures the petitioner or the department of
 21 local government finance must follow in order to obtain court
 22 review of the final determination of the Indiana board.

23 The county auditor shall provide copies of the documents described in
 24 subdivisions (1) and (2) to the taxing units entitled to notice under
 25 section 2(e) of this chapter.

26 SECTION 135. IC 6-2.5-8-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.219-2007,
 27 SECTION 91, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 28 JULY 1, 2008]: Sec.1. (a) A retail merchant may not make a retail
 29 transaction in Indiana, unless the retail merchant has applied for a
 30 registered retail merchant's certificate.

31 (b) A retail merchant may obtain a registered retail merchant's
 32 certificate by filing an application with the department and paying a
 33 registration fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25) for each place of business
 34 listed on the application. The retail merchant shall also provide such
 35 security for payment of the tax as the department may require under
 36 IC 6-2.5-6-12.

37 (c) The retail merchant shall list on the application the location
 38 (including the township) of each place of business where the retail
 39 merchant makes retail transactions. However, if the retail merchant
 40 does not have a fixed place of business, the retail merchant shall list the
 41 retail merchant's residence as the retail merchant's place of business. In
 42 addition, a public utility may list only its principal Indiana office as its

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place of business for sales of public utility commodities or service, but the utility must also list on the application the places of business where it makes retail transactions other than sales of public utility commodities or service.

(d) Upon receiving a proper application, the correct fee, and the security for payment, if required, the department shall issue to the retail merchant a separate registered retail merchant's certificate for each place of business listed on the application. Each certificate shall bear a serial number and the location of the place of business for which it is issued.

(e) If a retail merchant intends to make retail transactions during a calendar year at a new Indiana place of business, the retail merchant must file a supplemental application and pay the fee for that place of business.

(f) A registered retail merchant's certificate is valid for two (2) years after the date the registered retail merchant's certificate is originally issued or renewed. If the retail merchant has filed all returns and remitted all taxes the retail merchant is currently obligated to file or remit, the department shall renew the registered retail merchant's certificate within thirty (30) days after the expiration date, at no cost to the retail merchant.

(g) The department may not renew a registered retail merchant certificate of a retail merchant who is delinquent in remitting sales or use tax. The department, at least sixty (60) days before the date on which a retail merchant's registered retail merchant's certificate expires, shall notify a retail merchant who is delinquent in remitting sales or use tax that the department will not renew the retail merchant's registered retail merchant's certificate.

(h) A retail merchant engaged in business in Indiana as defined in IC 6-2.5-3-1(c) who makes retail transactions that are only subject to the use tax must obtain a registered retail merchant's certificate before making those transactions. The retail merchant may obtain the certificate by following the same procedure as a retail merchant under subsections (b) and (c), except that the retail merchant must also include on the application:

- (1) the names and addresses of the retail merchant's principal employees, agents, or representatives who engage in Indiana in the solicitation or negotiation of the retail transactions;
- (2) the location of all of the retail merchant's places of business in Indiana, including offices and distribution houses; and
- (3) any other information that the department requests.

(i) The department may permit an out-of-state retail merchant to

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1 collect the use tax. However, before the out-of-state retail merchant
 2 may collect the tax, the out-of-state retail merchant must obtain a
 3 registered retail merchant's certificate in the manner provided by this
 4 section. Upon receiving the certificate, the out-of-state retail merchant
 5 becomes subject to the same conditions and duties as an Indiana retail
 6 merchant and must then collect the use tax due on all sales of tangible
 7 personal property that the out-of-state retail merchant knows is
 8 intended for use in Indiana.

9 (j) Except as provided in subsection (k), the department shall submit
 10 to the ~~township~~ **county** assessor before July 15 of each year:

11 (1) the name of each retail merchant that has newly obtained a
 12 registered retail merchant's certificate between March 2 of the
 13 preceding year and March 1 of the current year for a place of
 14 business located in the ~~township~~ **county**; and

15 (2) the address of each place of business of the taxpayer in the
 16 ~~township~~ **county**.

17 (k) If the duties of the township assessor have been transferred to
 18 the county assessor as described in IC 6-1.1-1-24 **(before its repeal)**,
 19 the department shall submit the information listed in subsection (j) to
 20 the county assessor.

21 SECTION 136. IC 6-6-5.5-19 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 22 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 19. (a) As used in this
 23 section, "assessed value" means an amount equal to the true tax value
 24 of commercial vehicles that:

25 (1) are subject to the commercial vehicle excise tax under this
 26 chapter; and

27 (2) would have been subject to assessment as personal property
 28 on March 1, 2000, under the law in effect before January 1, 2000.

29 (b) For calendar year 2001, a taxing unit's base revenue shall be
 30 determined as provided in subsection (f). For calendar years that begin
 31 after December 31, 2001, a taxing unit's base revenue shall be
 32 determined by multiplying the previous year's base revenue by one
 33 hundred five percent (105%).

34 (c) The amount of commercial vehicle excise tax distributed to the
 35 taxing units of Indiana from the commercial vehicle excise tax fund
 36 shall be determined in the manner provided in this section. ~~On or~~
 37 ~~before June 1, 2000, each township assessor of a county shall deliver~~
 38 ~~to the county assessor a list that states by taxing district the total~~
 39 ~~assessed value as shown on the information returns filed with the~~
 40 ~~assessor on or before May 15, 2000.~~

41 (d) On or before July 1, 2000, each county assessor shall certify to
 42 the county auditor the assessed value of commercial vehicles in every

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1 taxing district.

2 (e) On or before August 1, 2000, the county auditor shall certify the
3 following to the department of local government finance:

4 (1) The total assessed value of commercial vehicles in the county.

5 (2) The total assessed value of commercial vehicles in each taxing
6 district of the county.

7 (f) The department of local government finance shall determine
8 each taxing unit's base revenue by applying the current tax rate for each
9 taxing district to the certified assessed value from each taxing district.
10 The department of local government finance shall also determine the
11 following:

12 (1) The total amount of base revenue to be distributed from the
13 commercial vehicle excise tax fund in 2001 to all taxing units in
14 Indiana.

15 (2) The total amount of base revenue to be distributed from the
16 commercial vehicle excise tax fund in 2001 to all taxing units in
17 each county.

18 (3) Each county's total distribution percentage. A county's total
19 distribution percentage shall be determined by dividing the total
20 amount of base revenue to be distributed in 2001 to all taxing
21 units in the county by the total base revenue to be distributed
22 statewide.

23 (4) Each taxing unit's distribution percentage. A taxing unit's
24 distribution percentage shall be determined by dividing each
25 taxing unit's base revenue by the total amount of base revenue to
26 be distributed in 2001 to all taxing units in the county.

27 (g) The department of local government finance shall certify each
28 taxing unit's base revenue and distribution percentage for calendar year
29 2001 to the auditor of state on or before September 1, 2000.

30 (h) The auditor of state shall keep permanent records of each taxing
31 unit's base revenue and distribution percentage for calendar year 2001
32 for purposes of determining the amount of money each taxing unit in
33 Indiana is entitled to receive in calendar years that begin after
34 December 31, 2001.

35 SECTION 137. IC 6-8.1-7-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.219-2007,
36 SECTION 92, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
37 JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 1. (a) This subsection does not apply to the
38 disclosure of information concerning a conviction on a tax evasion
39 charge. Unless in accordance with a judicial order or as otherwise
40 provided in this chapter, the department, its employees, former
41 employees, counsel, agents, or any other person may not divulge the
42 amount of tax paid by any taxpayer, terms of a settlement agreement

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executed between a taxpayer and the department, investigation records, investigation reports, or any other information disclosed by the reports filed under the provisions of the law relating to any of the listed taxes, including required information derived from a federal return, except to:

- (1) members and employees of the department;
- (2) the governor;
- (3) the attorney general or any other legal representative of the state in any action in respect to the amount of tax due under the provisions of the law relating to any of the listed taxes; or
- (4) any authorized officers of the United States;

when it is agreed that the information is to be confidential and to be used solely for official purposes.

(b) The information described in subsection (a) may be revealed upon the receipt of a certified request of any designated officer of the state tax department of any other state, district, territory, or possession of the United States when:

- (1) the state, district, territory, or possession permits the exchange of like information with the taxing officials of the state; and
- (2) it is agreed that the information is to be confidential and to be used solely for tax collection purposes.

(c) The information described in subsection (a) relating to a person on public welfare or a person who has made application for public welfare may be revealed to the director of the division of family resources, and to any director of a county office of family and children located in Indiana, upon receipt of a written request from either director for the information. The information shall be treated as confidential by the directors. In addition, the information described in subsection (a) relating to a person who has been designated as an absent parent by the state Title IV-D agency shall be made available to the state Title IV-D agency upon request. The information shall be subject to the information safeguarding provisions of the state and federal Title IV-D programs.

(d) The name, address, Social Security number, and place of employment relating to any individual who is delinquent in paying educational loans owed to a postsecondary educational institution may be revealed to that institution if it provides proof to the department that the individual is delinquent in paying for educational loans. This information shall be provided free of charge to approved postsecondary educational institutions (as defined by IC 21-7-13-6(a)). The department shall establish fees that all other institutions must pay to the department to obtain information under this subsection. However, these fees may not exceed the department's administrative costs in providing

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the information to the institution.

(e) The information described in subsection (a) relating to reports submitted under IC 6-6-1.1-502 concerning the number of gallons of gasoline sold by a distributor and IC 6-6-2.5 concerning the number of gallons of special fuel sold by a supplier and the number of gallons of special fuel exported by a licensed exporter or imported by a licensed transporter may be released by the commissioner upon receipt of a written request for the information.

(f) The information described in subsection (a) may be revealed upon the receipt of a written request from the administrative head of a state agency of Indiana when:

(1) the state agency shows an official need for the information; and

(2) the administrative head of the state agency agrees that any information released will be kept confidential and will be used solely for official purposes.

(g) The name and address of retail merchants, including township, as specified in IC 6-2.5-8-1(j) may be released solely for tax collection purposes to ~~township assessors and~~ county assessors.

(h) The department shall notify the appropriate innkeepers' tax board, bureau, or commission that a taxpayer is delinquent in remitting innkeepers' taxes under IC 6-9.

(i) All information relating to the delinquency or evasion of the motor vehicle excise tax may be disclosed to the bureau of motor vehicles in Indiana and may be disclosed to another state, if the information is disclosed for the purpose of the enforcement and collection of the taxes imposed by IC 6-6-5.

(j) All information relating to the delinquency or evasion of commercial vehicle excise taxes payable to the bureau of motor vehicles in Indiana may be disclosed to the bureau and may be disclosed to another state, if the information is disclosed for the purpose of the enforcement and collection of the taxes imposed by IC 6-6-5.5.

(k) All information relating to the delinquency or evasion of commercial vehicle excise taxes payable under the International Registration Plan may be disclosed to another state, if the information is disclosed for the purpose of the enforcement and collection of the taxes imposed by IC 6-6-5.5.

(l) This section does not apply to:

- (1) the beer excise tax (IC 7.1-4-2);
- (2) the liquor excise tax (IC 7.1-4-3);
- (3) the wine excise tax (IC 7.1-4-4);

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- (4) the hard cider excise tax (IC 7.1-4-4.5);
- (5) the malt excise tax (IC 7.1-4-5);
- (6) the motor vehicle excise tax (IC 6-6-5);
- (7) the commercial vehicle excise tax (IC 6-6-5.5); and
- (8) the fees under IC 13-23.

(m) The name and business address of retail merchants within each county that sell tobacco products may be released to the division of mental health and addiction and the alcohol and tobacco commission solely for the purpose of the list prepared under IC 6-2.5-6-14.2.

SECTION 138. IC 25-34.1-3-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.57-2007, SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 8. (a) This section does not preclude a person who:

- (1) is not licensed or certified as a real estate appraiser under this section; and
 - (2) is licensed as a broker under this article;
- from appraising real estate in Indiana for compensation.

(b) As used in this section, "federal act" refers to Title XI of the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act (12 U.S.C. 3331 through 3351).

(c) The commission shall adopt rules to establish a real estate appraiser licensure and certification program to be administered by the board.

(d) The commission may not adopt rules under this section except upon the action and written recommendations of the board under IC 25-34.1-8-6.5.

(e) The real estate appraiser licensure and certification program established by the commission under this section must meet the requirements of:

- (1) the federal act;
- (2) any federal regulations adopted under the federal act; and
- (3) any other requirements established by the commission as recommended by the board, including requirements for education, experience, examination, reciprocity, and temporary practice.

(f) The real estate appraiser licensure and certification requirements established by the commission under this section must require a person to meet the standards for real estate appraiser certification and licensure established:

- (1) under the federal act;
- (2) by federal regulations; and
- (3) **under** any other requirements established by the commission as recommended by the board, including requirements for

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education, experience, examination, reciprocity, and temporary practice.

(g) The commission may require continuing education as a condition of renewal for real estate appraiser licensure and certification.

(h) The following are not required to be a licensed or certified real estate appraiser to perform the requirements of IC 6-1.1-4:

(1) A county assessor. ~~who holds office under IC 36-2-15.~~

(2) ~~A township assessor. who holds office under IC 36-6-5.~~

~~(3) (2) An individual employed by an officer described in subdivision (1) or (2):~~ **employee of a county assessor.**

(i) Notwithstanding IC 25-34.1-3-2(a):

(1) only a person who receives a license or certificate issued under the real estate appraiser licensure and certification program established under this section may appraise real estate involved in transactions governed by:

(A) the federal act; and

(B) any regulations adopted under the federal act;

as determined under rules adopted by the commission, as recommended by the board; and

(2) a person who receives a license or certificate issued under the real estate appraiser licensure and certification program established under this section may appraise real estate not involved in transactions governed by:

(A) the federal act; and

(B) any regulations adopted under the federal act;

as determined under rules adopted by the commission, as recommended by the board.

SECTION 139. IC 32-21-2-13, AS AMENDED BY P.L.219-2007, SECTION 100, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 13. (a) Except as provided in subsection (c), if the **county** auditor ~~of the county~~ or the ~~township~~ **county** assessor under IC 6-1.1-5-9 and IC 6-1.1-5-9.1 determines it necessary, an instrument transferring fee simple title to less than the whole of a tract that will result in the division of the tract into at least two (2) parcels for property tax purposes may not be recorded unless the auditor or township assessor is furnished a drawing or other reliable evidence of the following:

(1) The number of acres in each new tax parcel being created.

(2) The existence or absence of improvements on each new tax parcel being created.

(3) The location within the original tract of each new tax parcel

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being created.

(b) Any instrument that is accepted for recording and placed of record that bears the endorsement required by IC 36-2-11-14 is presumed to comply with this section.

(c) If the duties of the township assessor have been transferred to the county assessor as described in IC 6-1.1-1-24 **(before its repeal)**, a reference to the township assessor in this section is considered to be a reference to the county assessor.

SECTION 140. IC 32-28-3-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.219-2007, SECTION 101, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 1. (a) A contractor, a subcontractor, a mechanic, a lessor leasing construction and other equipment and tools, whether or not an operator is also provided by the lessor, a journeyman, a laborer, or any other person performing labor or furnishing materials or machinery, including the leasing of equipment or tools, for:

(1) the erection, alteration, repair, or removal of:

(A) a house, mill, manufactory, or other building; or

(B) a bridge, reservoir, system of waterworks, or other structure;

(2) the construction, alteration, repair, or removal of a walk or sidewalk located on the land or bordering the land, a stile, a well, a drain, a drainage ditch, a sewer, or a cistern; or

(3) any other earth moving operation;

may have a lien as set forth in this section.

(b) A person described in subsection (a) may have a lien separately or jointly:

(1) upon the house, mill, manufactory, or other building, bridge, reservoir, system of waterworks, or other structure, sidewalk, walk, stile, well, drain, drainage ditch, sewer, cistern, or earth:

(A) that the person erected, altered, repaired, moved, or removed; or

(B) for which the person furnished materials or machinery of any description; and

(2) on the interest of the owner of the lot or parcel of land:

(A) on which the structure or improvement stands; or

(B) with which the structure or improvement is connected;

to the extent of the value of any labor done or the material furnished, or both, including any use of the leased equipment and tools.

(c) All claims for wages of mechanics and laborers employed in or about a shop, mill, wareroom, storeroom, manufactory or structure, bridge, reservoir, system of waterworks or other structure, sidewalk,

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walk, stile, well, drain, drainage ditch, cistern, or any other earth moving operation shall be a lien on all the:

- (1) machinery;
- (2) tools;
- (3) stock;
- (4) material; or
- (5) finished or unfinished work;

located in or about the shop, mill, wareroom, storeroom, manufactory or other building, bridge, reservoir, system of waterworks, or other structure, sidewalk, walk, stile, well, drain, drainage ditch, sewer, cistern, or earth used in a business.

(d) If the person, firm, limited liability company, or corporation described in subsection (a) or (c) is in failing circumstances, the claims described in this section shall be preferred debts whether a claim or notice of lien has been filed.

(e) Subject to subsection (f), a contract:

- (1) for the construction, alteration, or repair of a Class 2 structure (as defined in IC 22-12-1-5);
- (2) for the construction, alteration, or repair of an improvement on the same real estate auxiliary to a Class 2 structure (as defined in IC 22-12-1-5);
- (3) for the construction, alteration, or repair of property that is:
 - (A) owned, operated, managed, or controlled by a:
 - (i) public utility (as defined in IC 8-1-2-1);
 - (ii) municipally owned utility (as defined in IC 8-1-2-1);
 - (iii) joint agency (as defined in IC 8-1-2.2-2);
 - (iv) rural electric membership corporation formed under IC 8-1-13-4;
 - (v) rural telephone cooperative corporation formed under IC 8-1-17; or
 - (vi) not-for-profit utility (as defined in IC 8-1-2-125);

regulated under IC 8; and

(B) intended to be used and useful for the production, transmission, delivery, or furnishing of heat, light, water, telecommunications services, or power to the public; or

(4) to prepare property for Class 2 residential construction;

may include a provision or stipulation in the contract of the owner and principal contractor that a lien may not attach to the real estate, building, structure or any other improvement of the owner.

(f) A contract containing a provision or stipulation described in subsection (e) must meet the requirements of this subsection to be valid against subcontractors, mechanics, journeymen, laborers, or persons

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performing labor upon or furnishing materials or machinery for the property or improvement of the owner. The contract must:

- (1) be in writing;
- (2) contain specific reference by legal description of the real estate to be improved;
- (3) be acknowledged as provided in the case of deeds; and
- (4) be filed and recorded in the recorder's office of the county in which the real estate, building, structure, or other improvement is situated not more than five (5) days after the date of execution of the contract.

A contract containing a provision or stipulation described in subsection (e) does not affect a lien for labor, material, or machinery supplied before the filing of the contract with the recorder.

(g) Upon the filing of a contract under subsection (f), the recorder shall:

- (1) record the contract at length in the order of the time it was received in books provided by the recorder for that purpose;
- (2) index the contract in the name of the:
 - (A) contractor; and
 - (B) owner;
- in books kept for that purpose; and
- (3) collect a fee for recording the contract as is provided for the recording of deeds and mortgages.

(h) A person, firm, partnership, limited liability company, or corporation that sells or furnishes on credit any material, labor, or machinery for the alteration or repair of an owner occupied single or double family dwelling or the appurtenances or additions to the dwelling to:

- (1) a contractor, subcontractor, mechanic; or
- (2) anyone other than the occupying owner or the owner's legal representative;

must furnish to the occupying owner of the parcel of land where the material, labor, or machinery is delivered a written notice of the delivery or work and of the existence of lien rights not later than thirty (30) days after the date of first delivery or labor performed. The furnishing of the notice is a condition precedent to the right of acquiring a lien upon the lot or parcel of land or the improvement on the lot or parcel of land.

(i) A person, firm, partnership, limited liability company, or corporation that sells or furnishes on credit material, labor, or machinery for the original construction of a single or double family dwelling for the intended occupancy of the owner upon whose real

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estate the construction takes place to a contractor, subcontractor, mechanic, or anyone other than the owner or the owner's legal representatives must:

(1) furnish the owner of the real estate:

(A) as named in the latest entry in the transfer books described in IC 6-1.1-5-4 of the county auditor; or

(B) if IC 6-1.1-5-9 applies, as named in the transfer books of the ~~township assessor or the~~ county assessor;

with a written notice of the delivery or labor and the existence of lien rights not later than sixty (60) days after the date of the first delivery or labor performed; and

(2) file a copy of the written notice in the recorder's office of the county not later than sixty (60) days after the date of the first delivery or labor performed.

The furnishing and filing of the notice is a condition precedent to the right of acquiring a lien upon the real estate or upon the improvement constructed on the real estate.

(j) A lien for material or labor in original construction does not attach to real estate purchased by an innocent purchaser for value without notice of a single or double family dwelling for occupancy by the purchaser unless notice of intention to hold the lien is recorded under section 3 of this chapter before recording the deed by which the purchaser takes title.

SECTION 141. IC 32-28-3-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.219-2007, SECTION 102, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 3. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), a person who wishes to acquire a lien upon property, whether the claim is due or not, must file in duplicate a sworn statement and notice of the person's intention to hold a lien upon the property for the amount of the claim:

(1) in the recorder's office of the county; and

(2) not later than ninety (90) days after performing labor or furnishing materials or machinery described in section 1 of this chapter.

The statement and notice of intention to hold a lien may be verified and filed on behalf of a client by an attorney registered with the clerk of the supreme court as an attorney in good standing under the requirements of the supreme court.

(b) This subsection applies to a person that performs labor or furnishes materials or machinery described in section 1 of this chapter related to a Class 2 structure (as defined in IC 22-12-1-5) or an improvement on the same real estate auxiliary to a Class 2 structure (as

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defined in IC 22-12-1-5). A person who wishes to acquire a lien upon property, whether the claim is due or not, must file in duplicate a sworn statement and notice of the person's intention to hold a lien upon the property for the amount of the claim:

- (1) in the recorder's office of the county; and
- (2) not later than sixty (60) days after performing labor or furnishing materials or machinery described in section 1 of this chapter.

The statement and notice of intention to hold a lien may be verified and filed on behalf of a client by an attorney registered with the clerk of the supreme court as an attorney in good standing under the requirements of the supreme court.

(c) A statement and notice of intention to hold a lien filed under this section must specifically set forth:

- (1) the amount claimed;
- (2) the name and address of the claimant;
- (3) the owner's:
 - (A) name; and
 - (B) latest address as shown on the property tax records of the county; and
- (4) the:
 - (A) legal description; and
 - (B) street and number, if any;
 of the lot or land on which the house, mill, manufactory or other buildings, bridge, reservoir, system of waterworks, or other structure may stand or be connected with or to which it may be removed.

The name of the owner and legal description of the lot or land will be sufficient if they are substantially as set forth in the latest entry in the transfer books described in IC 6-1.1-5-4 of the county auditor or, if IC 6-1.1-5-9 applies, the transfer books of the ~~township assessor or the~~ county assessor at the time of filing of the notice of intention to hold a lien.

(d) The recorder shall:

- (1) mail, first class, one (1) of the duplicates of the statement and notice of intention to hold a lien to the owner named in the statement and notice not later than three (3) business days after recordation;
- (2) post records as to the date of the mailing; and
- (3) collect a fee of two dollars (\$2) from the lien claimant for each statement and notice that is mailed.

The statement and notice shall be addressed to the latest address of the

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owner as specifically set out in the sworn statement and notice of the person intending to hold a lien upon the property.

SECTION 142. IC 34-17-2-1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 1. (a) An information described in IC 34-17-1-1 may be filed:

(1) by the prosecuting attorney in the circuit court of the proper county, upon the prosecuting attorney's own relation, whenever the prosecuting attorney:

(A) determines it to be the prosecuting attorney's duty to do so; or

(B) is directed by the court or other competent authority; or

(2) by any other person on the person's own relation, whenever the person claims an interest in the office, franchise, or corporation that is the subject of the information.

(b) The prosecuting attorney shall file an information in the circuit court of the county against the county assessor under IC 34-17-1-1(2) if the board of county commissioners adopts an ordinance under IC 6-1.1-4-31(f).

SECTION 143. IC 36-1-8-14.2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.219-2007, SECTION 105, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 14.2. (a) As used in this section, the following terms have the meanings set forth in IC 6-1.1-1:

(1) Assessed value.

(2) Exemption.

(3) Owner.

(4) Person.

(5) Property taxation.

(6) Real property.

(7) Township assessor.

(b) As used in this section, "PILOTS" means payments in lieu of taxes.

(c) As used in this section, "property owner" means the owner of real property described in IC 6-1.1-10-16.7.

(d) Subject to the approval of a property owner, the governing body of a political subdivision may adopt an ordinance to require the property owner to pay PILOTS at times set forth in the ordinance with respect to real property that is subject to an exemption under IC 6-1.1-10-16.7, if the improvements that qualify the real property for an exemption were begun or acquired after December 31, 2001. The ordinance remains in full force and effect until repealed or modified by the governing body, subject to the approval of the property owner.

(e) The PILOTS must be calculated so that the PILOTS are in an

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amount equal to the amount of property taxes that would have been levied by the governing body for the political subdivision upon the real property described in subsection (d) if the property were not subject to an exemption from property taxation.

(f) PILOTS shall be imposed as are property taxes and shall be based on the assessed value of the real property described in subsection (d). ~~Except as provided in subsection (j);~~ The ~~township assessors~~ **county assessor** shall assess the real property described in subsection (d) as though the property were not subject to an exemption.

(g) PILOTS collected under this section shall be deposited in the unit's affordable housing fund established under IC 5-20-5-15.5 and used for any purpose for which the affordable housing fund may be used.

(h) PILOTS shall be due as set forth in the ordinance and bear interest, if unpaid, as in the case of other taxes on property. PILOTS shall be treated in the same manner as taxes for purposes of all procedural and substantive provisions of law.

(i) This section does not apply to a county that contains a consolidated city or to a political subdivision of the county.

~~(j) If the duties of the township assessor have been transferred to the county assessor as described in IC 6-1.1-1-24, a reference to the township assessor in this section is considered to be a reference to the county assessor.~~

SECTION 144. IC 36-2-5-5 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 5. (a) Before the Thursday after the first Monday in August of each year, each county officer ~~and township assessor~~ shall prepare an itemized estimate of the amount of money required for ~~his~~ **the officer's** office for the next calendar year. Each budget estimate under this section must include:

- (1) the compensation of the officer;
 - (2) the expense of employing deputies;
 - (3) the expense of office supplies, itemized by the quantity and probable cost of each kind of supplies;
 - (4) the expense of litigation for the office; and
 - (5) other expenses of the office, specifically itemized;
- that are payable out of the county treasury.

(b) If all or part of the expenses of a county office may be paid out of the county treasury, but only under an order of the county executive to that effect, the expenses of the office shall be included in the officer's budget estimate and may not be included in the county executive's budget estimate.

SECTION 145. IC 36-2-6-8 IS AMENDED TO READ AS



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FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 8. (a) The county executive or a court may not make an allowance to a county officer for:

- (1) services rendered in a criminal action;
- (2) services rendered in a civil action; or
- (3) extra services rendered in ~~his~~ **the county officer's** capacity as a county officer.

(b) The county executive may make an allowance to the clerk of the circuit court, county auditor, county treasurer, county sheriff, ~~township assessor~~ or county assessor, or to any of those officers' employees, only if:

- (1) the allowance is specifically required by law; or
- (2) the county executive finds, on the record, that the allowance is necessary in the public interest.

(c) A member of the county executive who recklessly violates subsection (b) commits a Class C misdemeanor and forfeits ~~his~~ **the member's** office.

SECTION 146. IC 36-2-6-22, AS AMENDED BY P.L.219-2007, SECTION 107, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 22. (a) As used in this section, the following terms have the meanings set forth in IC 6-1.1-1:

- (1) Assessed value.
- (2) Exemption.
- (3) Owner.
- (4) Person.
- (5) Property taxation.
- (6) Real property.
- (7) Township assessor.

(b) As used in this section, "PILOTS" means payments in lieu of taxes.

(c) As used in this section, "property owner" means the owner of real property described in IC 6-1.1-10-16.7 that is not located in a county containing a consolidated city.

(d) Subject to the approval of a property owner, the fiscal body of a county may adopt an ordinance to require the property owner to pay PILOTS at times set forth in the ordinance with respect to real property that is subject to an exemption under IC 6-1.1-10-16.7. The ordinance remains in full force and effect until repealed or modified by the legislative body, subject to the approval of the property owner.

(e) The PILOTS must be calculated so that the PILOTS are in an amount equal to the amount of property taxes that would have been levied upon the real property described in subsection (d) if the property were not subject to an exemption from property taxation.

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(f) PILOTS shall be imposed in the same manner as property taxes and shall be based on the assessed value of the real property described in subsection (d). ~~Except as provided in subsection (i);~~ The township assessors county assessor shall assess the real property described in subsection (d) as though the property were not subject to an exemption.

(g) PILOTS collected under this section shall be distributed in the same manner as if they were property taxes being distributed to taxing units in the county.

(h) PILOTS shall be due as set forth in the ordinance and bear interest, if unpaid, as in the case of other taxes on property. PILOTS shall be treated in the same manner as taxes for purposes of all procedural and substantive provisions of law.

(i) ~~If the duties of the township assessor have been transferred to the county assessor as described in IC 6-1.1-1-24, a reference to the township assessor in this section is considered to be a reference to the county assessor.~~

SECTION 147. IC 36-2-7-13 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 13. The county fiscal body may grant to the county assessor, in addition to the compensation fixed under IC 36-2-5, a per diem for each day that the assessor is engaged in general reassessment activities. ~~including service on the county land valuation commission.~~ This section applies regardless of whether professional assessing services are provided under a contract to one (1) or more townships in the county.

SECTION 148. IC 36-2-15-3 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 3. (a) **Subject to subsection (b)**, the assessor shall keep ~~his~~ **the assessor's** office in a building provided at the county seat by the county executive. ~~He~~ **The assessor** shall keep ~~his~~ **the** office open for business during regular business hours on every day of the year except Sundays and legal holidays. However, ~~he~~ **the assessor** may close ~~his~~ **the** office on days specified by the county executive according to custom and practice of the county.

(b) After June 30, 2008, the county assessor may establish one (1) or more satellite offices in the county.

SECTION 149. IC 36-2-15-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.219-2007, SECTION 108, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 5. ~~(a)~~ The county assessor shall perform the functions assigned by statute to the county assessor, including the following:

- (1) Countywide equalization.
- (2) Selection and maintenance of a countywide computer system.

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(3) Certification of gross assessments to the county auditor.

(4) Discovery of omitted property.

(5) In a county in which the transfer of duties is required by subsection (c); Performance of the assessment duties prescribed by IC 6-1.1.

(b) The county assessor shall perform the functions of an assessing official under IC 36-6-5-2 in a township with a township assessor-trustee if the township assessor-trustee:

(1) fails to make a report that is required by law;

(2) fails to deliver a property tax record to the appropriate officer or board;

(3) fails to deliver an assessment to the county assessor; or

(4) fails to perform any other assessing duty as required by statute or rule of the department of local government finance;

within the time period prescribed by statute or rule of the department or within a later time that is necessitated by reason of another official failing to perform the official's functions in a timely manner.

(c) A township with a township trustee-assessor may, with the consent of the township board, enter into an agreement with:

(1) the county assessor; or

(2) another township assessor in the county;

to perform any of the functions of an assessing official. A township trustee-assessor may not contract for the performance of any function for a period of time that extends beyond the completion of the township trustee-assessor's term of office.

(d) A transfer of duties between assessors under subsection (c) does not affect:

(1) any assessment, assessment appeal, or other official action made by an assessor before the transfer; or

(2) any pending action against, or the rights of any party that may possess a legal claim against, an assessor that is not described in subdivision (1).

Any assessment, assessment appeal, or other official action of an assessor made by the assessor within the scope of the assessor's official duties before the transfer is considered as having been made by the assessor to whom the duties are transferred.

(e) If for a particular general election after June 30, 2008, the person elected to the office of township assessor or the office of township trustee-assessor has not attained the certification of a level two assessor-appraiser as provided in IC 3-8-1-23.5 before the date the term of office begins, the assessment duties prescribed by IC 6-1.1 that would otherwise be performed in the township by the township

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assessor or township trustee-assessor are transferred to the county assessor on that date. If assessment duties in a township are transferred to the county assessor under this subsection, those assessment duties are transferred back to the township assessor or township trustee-assessor (as appropriate) if at a later election a person who has attained the certification of a level two assessor-appraiser as provided in IC 3-8-1-23.5 is elected to the office of township assessor or the office of township trustee-assessor.

(f) If assessment duties in a township are transferred to the county assessor under subsection (e):

(1) the office of elected township assessor remains vacant for the period during which the assessment duties prescribed by IC 6-1-1 are transferred to the county assessor; and

(2) the office of township trustee remains in place for the purpose of carrying out all functions of the office other than assessment duties prescribed by IC 6-1-1.

SECTION 150. IC 36-2-16-8 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 8. (a) The county assessor may appoint the number of full-time or part-time deputies and employees authorized by the county fiscal body.

(b) After June 30, 2009, an employee of the county assessor who performs real property assessing duties must hold a level two or level three certification under IC 6-1.1-35.5.

SECTION 151. IC 36-2-19-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.219-2007, SECTION 110, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 7. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b); In a township county in which IC 6-1.1-5-9 or IC 6-1.1-5-9.1 applies, the county surveyor shall file a duplicate copy of any plat described in section 4 of this chapter with the township county assessor.

(b) If the duties of the township assessor have been transferred to the county assessor as described in IC 6-1.1-1-24, a reference to the township assessor in this section is considered to be a reference to the county assessor.

SECTION 152. IC 36-3-2-10, AS AMENDED BY P.L.219-2007, SECTION 111, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 10. (a) The general assembly finds the following:

(1) That the tax base of the consolidated city and the county have been significantly eroded through the ownership of tangible property by separate municipal corporations and other public entities that operate as private enterprises yet are exempt or whose

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property is exempt from property taxation.

(2) That to restore this tax base and provide a proper allocation of the cost of providing governmental services the legislative body of the consolidated city and county should be authorized to collect payments in lieu of taxes from these public entities.

(3) That the appropriate maximum payments in lieu of taxes would be the amount of the property taxes that would be paid if the tangible property were not subject to an exemption.

(b) As used in this section, the following terms have the meanings set forth in IC 6-1.1-1:

(1) Assessed value.

(2) Exemption.

(3) Owner.

(4) Person.

(5) Personal property.

(6) Property taxation.

(7) Tangible property.

(8) Township assessor.

(c) As used in this section, "PILOTS" means payments in lieu of taxes.

(d) As used in this section, "public entity" means any of the following government entities in the county:

(1) An airport authority operating under IC 8-22-3.

(2) A capital improvement board of managers under IC 36-10-9.

(3) A building authority operating under IC 36-9-13.

(4) A wastewater treatment facility.

(e) The legislative body of the consolidated city may adopt an ordinance to require a public entity to pay PILOTS at times set forth in the ordinance with respect to:

(1) tangible property of which the public entity is the owner or the lessee and that is subject to an exemption;

(2) tangible property of which the owner is a person other than a public entity and that is subject to an exemption under IC 8-22-3; or

(3) both.

The ordinance remains in full force and effect until repealed or modified by the legislative body.

(f) The PILOTS must be calculated so that the PILOTS may be in any amount that does not exceed the amount of property taxes that would have been levied by the legislative body for the consolidated city and county upon the tangible property described in subsection (e) if the property were not subject to an exemption from property taxation.

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(g) PILOTS shall be imposed as are property taxes and shall be based on the assessed value of the tangible property described in subsection (e). ~~Except as provided in subsection (f);~~ The ~~township assessors~~ **county assessor** shall assess the tangible property described in subsection (e) as though the property were not subject to an exemption. The public entity shall report the value of personal property in a manner consistent with IC 6-1.1-3.

(h) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, a public entity is authorized to pay PILOTS imposed under this section from any legally available source of revenues. The public entity may consider these payments to be operating expenses for all purposes.

(i) PILOTS shall be deposited in the consolidated county fund and used for any purpose for which the consolidated county fund may be used.

(j) PILOTS shall be due as set forth in the ordinance and bear interest, if unpaid, as in the case of other taxes on property. PILOTS shall be treated in the same manner as taxes for purposes of all procedural and substantive provisions of law.

(k) PILOTS imposed on a wastewater treatment facility may be paid only from the cash earnings of the facility remaining after provisions have been made to pay for current obligations, including:

- (1) operating and maintenance expenses;
- (2) payment of principal and interest on any bonded indebtedness;
- (3) depreciation or replacement fund expenses;
- (4) bond and interest sinking fund expenses; and
- (5) any other priority fund requirements required by law or by any bond ordinance, resolution, indenture, contract, or similar instrument binding on the facility.

~~(f) If the duties of the township assessor have been transferred to the county assessor as described in IC 6-1.1-1-24, a reference to the township assessor in this section is considered to be a reference to the county assessor.~~

SECTION 153. IC 36-3-2-11, AS AMENDED BY P.L.219-2007, SECTION 112, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 11. (a) As used in this section, the following terms have the meanings set forth in IC 6-1.1-1:

- (1) Assessed value.
- (2) Exemption.
- (3) Owner.
- (4) Person.
- (5) Property taxation.
- (6) Real property.

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(7) Township assessor.

(b) As used in this section, "PILOTS" means payments in lieu of taxes.

(c) As used in this section, "property owner" means the owner of real property described in IC 6-1.1-10-16.7 that is located in a county with a consolidated city.

(d) Subject to the approval of a property owner, the legislative body of the consolidated city may adopt an ordinance to require the property owner to pay PILOTS at times set forth in the ordinance with respect to real property that is subject to an exemption under IC 6-1.1-10-16.7. The ordinance remains in full force and effect until repealed or modified by the legislative body, subject to the approval of the property owner.

(e) The PILOTS must be calculated so that the PILOTS are in an amount that is:

(1) agreed upon by the property owner and the legislative body of the consolidated city;

(2) a percentage of the property taxes that would have been levied by the legislative body for the consolidated city and the county upon the real property described in subsection (d) if the property were not subject to an exemption from property taxation; and

(3) not more than the amount of property taxes that would have been levied by the legislative body for the consolidated city and county upon the real property described in subsection (d) if the property were not subject to an exemption from property taxation.

(f) PILOTS shall be imposed as are property taxes and shall be based on the assessed value of the real property described in subsection (d). ~~Except as provided in subsection (i), The township assessors~~ **county assessor** shall assess the real property described in subsection (d) as though the property were not subject to an exemption.

(g) PILOTS collected under this section shall be deposited in the housing trust fund established under IC 36-7-15.1-35.5 and used for any purpose for which the housing trust fund may be used.

(h) PILOTS shall be due as set forth in the ordinance and bear interest, if unpaid, as in the case of other taxes on property. PILOTS shall be treated in the same manner as taxes for purposes of all procedural and substantive provisions of law.

~~(i) If the duties of the township assessor have been transferred to the county assessor as described in IC 6-1.1-1-24, a reference to the township assessor in this section is considered to be a reference to the county assessor.~~

SECTION 154. IC 36-3-6-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.227-2005,

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SECTION 31, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 4. (a) Before the Wednesday after the first Monday in July each year, the consolidated city and county shall prepare budget estimates for the ensuing budget year under this section.

(b) The following officers shall prepare for their respective departments, offices, agencies, or courts an estimate of the amount of money required for the ensuing budget year, stating in detail each category and item of expenditure they anticipate:

(1) The director of each department of the consolidated city.

(2) Each ~~township assessor~~ elected county officer or head of a county agency.

(3) The county clerk, for each court ~~of which he is the clerk~~ **serves.**

(c) In addition to the estimates required by subsection (b), the county clerk shall prepare an estimate of the amount of money that is, under law, taxable against the county for the expenses of cases tried in other counties on changes of venue.

(d) Each officer listed in subsection (b)(2) or (b)(3) shall append a certificate to each estimate the officer prepares stating that in the officer's opinion the amount fixed in each item will be required for the purpose indicated. The certificate must be verified by the oath of the officer.

(e) An estimate for a court or division of a court is subject to modification and approval by the judge of the court or division.

(f) All of the estimates prepared by city officers and county officers shall be submitted to the controller.

(g) The controller shall also prepare an itemized estimate of city and county expenditures for other purposes above the money proposed to be used by the city departments and county officers and agencies.

SECTION 155. IC 36-5-1-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.219-2007, SECTION 115, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 3. ~~(a)~~ A petition for incorporation must be accompanied by the following items, to be supplied at the expense of the petitioners:

(1) A survey, certified by a surveyor registered under IC 25-21.5, showing the boundaries of and quantity of land contained in the territory sought to be incorporated.

(2) An enumeration of the territory's residents and landowners and their mailing addresses, completed not more than thirty (30) days before the time of filing of the petition and verified by the persons supplying it.

(3) ~~Except as provided in subsection (b);~~ A statement of the

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assessed valuation of all real property within the territory,
certified by the ~~assessors~~ **county assessor** of the ~~townships~~
county in which the territory is located.

(4) A statement of the services to be provided to the residents of
the proposed town and the approximate times at which they are to
be established.

(5) A statement of the estimated cost of the services to be
provided and the proposed tax rate for the town.

(6) The name to be given to the proposed town.

(b) If the duties of the township assessor have been transferred to
the county assessor as described in IC 6-1.1-1-24, a reference to the
township assessor in this section is considered to be a reference to the
county assessor.

SECTION 156. IC 36-6-1.5-7, AS ADDED BY P.L.240-2005,
SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 7. If township governments merge under this
chapter,

(+) IC 36-6-6 applies to the election of the township board and

(2) ~~IC 36-6-5-1~~ applies to the election of a township assessor;
of the new township government.

SECTION 157. IC 36-6-4-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.1-2006,
SECTION 562, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
[EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 3. The executive shall do the
following:

(1) Keep a written record of official proceedings.

(2) Manage all township property interests.

(3) Keep township records open for public inspection.

(4) Attend all meetings of the township legislative body.

(5) Receive and pay out township funds.

(6) Examine and settle all accounts and demands chargeable
against the township.

(7) Administer township assistance under IC 12-20 and
IC 12-30-4.

(8) Perform the duties of fence viewer under IC 32-26.

(9) ~~Act as township assessor when required by IC 36-6-5-~~

(+0) (9) Provide and maintain cemeteries under IC 23-14.

(+1) (10) Provide fire protection under IC 36-8, except in a
township that:

(A) is located in a county having a consolidated city; and

(B) consolidated the township's fire department under
IC 36-3-1-6.1.

(+2) (11) File an annual personnel report under IC 5-11-13.

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~~(13)~~ (12) Provide and maintain township parks and community centers under IC 36-10.

~~(14)~~ (13) Destroy detrimental plants, noxious weeds, and rank vegetation under IC 15-3-4.

~~(15)~~ (14) Provide insulin to the poor under IC 12-20-16.

~~(16)~~ (15) Perform other duties prescribed by statute.

SECTION 158. IC 36-6-6-10, AS AMENDED BY P.L.169-2006, SECTION 56, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 10. (a) This section does not apply to the appropriation of money to pay a deputy ~~or~~ an employee ~~or a technical adviser that assists of~~ a township assessor with assessment duties or to an elected township assessor.

(b) The township legislative body shall fix the:

(1) salaries;

(2) wages;

(3) rates of hourly pay; and

(4) remuneration other than statutory allowances;

of all officers and employees of the township.

(c) Subject to subsection (d), the township legislative body may reduce the salary of an elected or appointed official. However, except as provided in subsection ~~(i)~~, **(h)**, the official is entitled to a salary that is not less than the salary fixed for the first year of the term of office that immediately preceded the current term of office.

(d) Except as provided in ~~subsections (c) and (i)~~, **subsection (h)**, the township legislative body may not alter the salaries of elected or appointed officers during the fiscal year for which they are fixed, but it may add or eliminate any other position and change the salary of any other employee, if the necessary funds and appropriations are available.

~~(e) In a township that does not elect a township assessor under IC 36-6-5-1, the township legislative body may appropriate available township funds to supplement the salaries of elected or appointed officers to compensate them for performing assessing duties. However, in any calendar year no officer or employee may receive a salary and additional salary supplements which exceed the salary fixed for that officer or employee under subsection (b).~~

~~(f)~~ **(e)** If a change in the mileage allowance paid to state officers and employees is established by July 1 of any year, that change shall be included in the compensation fixed for the township executive and assessor under this section, to take effect January 1 of the next year. However, the township legislative body may by ordinance provide for the change in the sum per mile to take effect before January 1 of the next year.

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(g) (f) The township legislative body may not reduce the salary of the township executive without the consent of the township executive during the term of office of the township executive as set forth in IC 36-6-4-2.

(h) (g) This subsection applies when a township executive dies or resigns from office. The person filling the vacancy of the township executive shall receive at least the same salary the previous township executive received for the remainder of the unexpired term of office of the township executive (as set forth in IC 36-6-4-2), unless the person consents to a reduction in salary.

(i) (h) In a year in which there is not an election of members to the township legislative body, the township legislative body may by unanimous vote reduce the salaries of the members of the township legislative body by any amount.

SECTION 159. IC 36-6-8-5 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 5. (a) When performing the real property reassessment duties prescribed by IC 6-1.1-4, a township assessor may receive per diem compensation, in addition to salary, at a rate fixed by the county fiscal body, for each day that ~~he the~~ **assessor** is engaged in reassessment activities. ~~including service on the county land valuation commission.~~

(b) Subsection (a) applies regardless of whether professional assessing services are provided to a township under contract.

SECTION 160. IC 36-7-11.2-58, AS AMENDED BY P.L.219-2007, SECTION 122, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 58. (a) A person who has filed a petition under section 56 or 57 of this chapter shall, not later than ten (10) days after the filing, serve notice upon all interested parties. The notice must state the following:

(1) The full name and address of the following:

(A) The petitioner.

(B) Each attorney acting for and on behalf of the petitioner.

(2) The street address of the Meridian Street and bordering property for which the petition was filed.

(3) The name of the owner of the property.

(4) The full name and address of, and the type of business, if any, conducted by:

(A) each person who at the time of the filing is a party to; and

(B) each person who is a disclosed or an undisclosed principal for whom the party was acting as agent in entering into;

a contract of sale, lease, option to purchase or lease, agreement to build or develop, or other written agreement of any kind or nature

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concerning the subject property or the present or future ownership, use, occupancy, possession, or development of the subject property.

(5) A description of the contract of sale, lease, option to purchase or lease, agreement to build or develop, or other written agreement sufficient to disclose the full nature of the interest of the party or of the party's principal in the subject property or in the present or future ownership, use, occupancy, possession, or development of the subject property.

(6) A description of the proposed use for which the rezoning or zoning variance is sought, sufficiently detailed to appraise the notice recipient of the true character, nature, extent, and physical properties of the proposed use.

(7) The date of the filing of the petition.

(8) The date, time, and place of the next regular meeting of the commission if a petition is for approval of a zoning variance. If a petition is filed with the development commission, the notice does not have to specify the date of a hearing before the commission or the development commission. However, the person filing the petition shall give ten (10) days notice of the date, time, and place of a hearing before the commission on the petition after the referral of the petition to the commission by the development commission.

(b) For purposes of giving notice to the interested parties who are owners, the records in the bound volumes of the recent real estate tax assessment records as the records appear in

~~(1) the offices of the township assessors; or~~

~~(2) the office of the county assessor~~

as of the date of filing are considered determinative of the persons who are owners.

SECTION 161. IC 36-7-11.3-6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.219-2007, SECTION 123, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 6. As used in this chapter, "notice" means written notice:

(1) served personally upon the person, official, or office entitled to the notice; or

(2) served upon the person, official, or office by placing the notice in the United States mail, first class postage prepaid, properly addressed to the person, official, or office. Notice is considered served if mailed in the manner prescribed by this subdivision properly addressed to the following:

(A) The governor, both to the address of the governor's official

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1 residence and to the governor's executive office in
2 Indianapolis.

3 (B) The Indiana department of transportation, to the
4 commissioner.

5 (C) The department of natural resources, both to the director
6 of the department and to the director of the department's
7 division of historic preservation and archeology.

8 (D) The municipal plan commission.

9 (E) An occupant, to:

10 (i) the person by name; or

11 (ii) if the name is unknown, the "Occupant" at the address of
12 the primary or secondary property occupied by the person.

13 (F) An owner, to the person by the name shown to be the name
14 of the owner, and at the person's address, as appears in the
15 records in the bound volumes of the most recent real estate tax
16 assessment records as the records appear in:

17 ~~(i) the offices of the township assessors or~~

18 ~~(ii) the office of the county assessor.~~

19 (G) The society, to the organization at the latest address as
20 shown in the records of the commission.

21 SECTION 162. IC 36-7-11.3-52, AS AMENDED BY P.L.219-2007,
22 SECTION 124, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
23 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 52. (a) A person who has filed a
24 petition under section 50 or 51 of this chapter shall, not later than ten
25 (10) days after the filing, serve notice upon all interested parties. The
26 notice must state the following:

27 (1) The full name and address of the following:

28 (A) The petitioner.

29 (B) Each attorney acting for and on behalf of the petitioner.

30 (2) The street address of the primary and secondary property for
31 which the petition was filed.

32 (3) The name of the owner of the property.

33 (4) The full name and address of and the type of business, if any,
34 conducted by:

35 (A) each person who at the time of the filing is a party to; and

36 (B) each person who is a disclosed or an undisclosed principal
37 for whom the party was acting as agent in entering into;

38 a contract of sale, lease, option to purchase or lease, agreement to
39 build or develop, or other written agreement of any kind or nature
40 concerning the subject property or the present or future
41 ownership, use, occupancy, possession, or development of the
42 subject property.

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(5) A description of the contract of sale, lease, option to purchase or lease, agreement to build or develop, or other written agreement sufficient to disclose the full nature of the interest of the party or of the party's principal in the subject property or in the present or future ownership, use, occupancy, possession, or development of the subject property.

(6) A description of the proposed use for which the rezoning or zoning variance is sought, sufficiently detailed to appraise the notice recipient of the true character, nature, extent, and physical properties of the proposed use.

(7) The date of the filing of the petition.

(8) The date, time, and place of the next regular meeting of the commission if a petition is for approval of a zoning variance. If a petition is filed with the development commission, the notice does not have to specify the date of a hearing before the commission or the development commission. However, the person filing the petition shall give ten (10) days notice of the date, time, and place of a hearing before the commission on the petition after the referral of the petition to the commission by the development commission.

(b) For purposes of giving notice to the interested parties who are owners, the records in the bound volumes of the recent real estate tax assessment records as the records appear in

~~(1) the offices of the township assessors; or~~

~~(2) the office of the county assessor~~

as of the date of filing are considered determinative of the persons who are owners.

SECTION 163. IC 36-7-15.1-32, AS AMENDED BY P.L.219-2007, SECTION 130, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 32. (a) The commission must establish a program for housing. The program, which may include such elements as the commission considers appropriate, must be adopted as part of a redevelopment plan or amendment to a redevelopment plan, and must establish an allocation area for purposes of sections 26 and 35 of this chapter for the accomplishment of the program.

(b) The notice and hearing provisions of sections 10 and 10.5 of this chapter apply to the resolution adopted under subsection (a). Judicial review of the resolution may be made under section 11 of this chapter.

(c) Before formal submission of any housing program to the commission, the department shall consult with persons interested in or affected by the proposed program and provide the affected neighborhood associations, residents, ~~township assessors~~ and the

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1 county assessor with an adequate opportunity to participate in an
 2 advisory role in planning, implementing, and evaluating the proposed
 3 program. The department may hold public meetings in the affected
 4 neighborhood to obtain the views of neighborhood associations and
 5 residents.

6 SECTION 164. IC 36-7-30-31, AS AMENDED BY P.L.219-2007,
 7 SECTION 136, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 8 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 31. (a) As used in this section, the
 9 following terms have the meanings set forth in IC 6-1.1-1:

10 (1) Assessed value.

11 (2) Owner.

12 (3) Person.

13 (4) Personal property.

14 (5) Property taxation.

15 (6) Tangible property.

16 (7) Township assessor.

17 (b) As used in this section, "PILOTS" means payments in lieu of
 18 taxes.

19 (c) The general assembly finds the following:

20 (1) That the closing of a military base in a unit results in an
 21 increased cost to the unit of providing governmental services to
 22 the area formerly occupied by the military base.

23 (2) That military base property held by a reuse authority is exempt
 24 from property taxation, resulting in the lack of an adequate tax
 25 base to support the increased governmental services.

26 (3) That to restore this tax base and provide a proper allocation of
 27 the cost of providing governmental services the fiscal body of the
 28 unit should be authorized to collect PILOTS from the reuse
 29 authority.

30 (4) That the appropriate maximum PILOTS would be the amount
 31 of the property taxes that would be paid if the tangible property
 32 were not exempt.

33 (d) The fiscal body of the unit may adopt an ordinance to require a
 34 reuse authority to pay PILOTS at times set forth in the ordinance with
 35 respect to tangible property of which the reuse authority is the owner
 36 or the lessee and that is exempt from property taxes. The ordinance
 37 remains in full force and effect until repealed or modified by the fiscal
 38 body.

39 (e) The PILOTS must be calculated so that the PILOTS do not
 40 exceed the amount of property taxes that would have been levied by the
 41 fiscal body for the unit upon the tangible property described in
 42 subsection (d) if the property were not exempt from property taxation.

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(f) PILOTS shall be imposed as are property taxes and shall be based on the assessed value of the tangible property described in subsection (d). ~~Except as provided in subsection (j);~~ The ~~township assessors county assessor~~ shall assess the tangible property described in subsection (d) as though the property were not exempt. The reuse authority shall report the value of personal property in a manner consistent with IC 6-1.1-3.

(g) Notwithstanding any other law, a reuse authority is authorized to pay PILOTS imposed under this section from any legally available source of revenues. The reuse authority may consider these payments to be operating expenses for all purposes.

(h) PILOTS shall be deposited in the general fund of the unit and used for any purpose for which the general fund may be used.

(i) PILOTS shall be due as set forth in the ordinance and bear interest, if unpaid, as in the case of other taxes on property. PILOTS shall be treated in the same manner as property taxes for purposes of all procedural and substantive provisions of law.

~~(j) If the duties of the township assessor have been transferred to the county assessor as described in IC 6-1.1-1-24, a reference to the township assessor in this section is considered to be a reference to the county assessor.~~

SECTION 165. IC 36-7-30.5-34, AS AMENDED BY P.L.219-2007, SECTION 139, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 34. (a) As used in this section, the following terms have the meanings set forth in IC 6-1.1-1:

- (1) Assessed value.
- (2) Owner.
- (3) Person.
- (4) Personal property.
- (5) Property taxation.
- (6) Tangible property.
- (7) Township assessor.

(b) As used in this section, "PILOTS" means payments in lieu of taxes.

(c) The general assembly finds the following:

- (1) That the closing of a military base in a unit results in an increased cost to the unit of providing governmental services to the area formerly occupied by the military base.
- (2) That military base property held by a development authority is exempt from property taxation, resulting in the lack of an adequate tax base to support the increased governmental services.
- (3) That to restore this tax base and provide a proper allocation of

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the cost of providing governmental services the fiscal body of the unit should be authorized to collect PILOTS from the development authority.

(4) That the appropriate maximum PILOTS would be the amount of the property taxes that would be paid if the tangible property were not exempt.

(d) The fiscal body of the unit may adopt an ordinance to require a development authority to pay PILOTS at times set forth in the ordinance with respect to tangible property of which the development authority is the owner or the lessee and that is exempt from property taxes. The ordinance remains in full force and effect until repealed or modified by the fiscal body.

(e) The PILOTS must be calculated so that the PILOTS do not exceed the amount of property taxes that would have been levied by the fiscal body for the unit upon the tangible property described in subsection (d) if the property were not exempt from property taxation.

(f) PILOTS shall be imposed as are property taxes and shall be based on the assessed value of the tangible property described in subsection (d). ~~Except as provided in subsection (j);~~ The township assessors county assessor shall assess the tangible property described in subsection (d) as though the property were not exempt. The development authority shall report the value of personal property in a manner consistent with IC 6-1.1-3.

(g) Notwithstanding any other law, a development authority is authorized to pay PILOTS imposed under this section from any legally available source of revenues. The development authority may consider these payments to be operating expenses for all purposes.

(h) PILOTS shall be deposited in the general fund of the unit and used for any purpose for which the general fund may be used.

(i) PILOTS shall be due as set forth in the ordinance and bear interest, if unpaid, as in the case of other taxes on property. PILOTS shall be treated in the same manner as property taxes for purposes of all procedural and substantive provisions of law.

~~(j) If the duties of the township assessor have been transferred to the county assessor as described in IC 6-1.1-1-24, a reference to the township assessor in this section is considered to be a reference to the county assessor.~~

SECTION 166. IC 36-9-11.1-11, AS AMENDED BY P.L.219-2007, SECTION 143, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 11. (a) All property of every kind, including air rights, acquired for off-street parking purposes, and all its funds and receipts, are exempt from taxation for all purposes. When

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any real property is acquired by the consolidated city, the county auditor shall, upon certification of that fact by the board, cancel all taxes then a lien. The certificate of the board must specifically describe the real property, including air rights, and the purpose for which acquired.

(b) A lessee of the city may not be assessed any tax upon any land, air rights, or improvements leased from the city, but the separate leasehold interest has the same status as leases on taxable real property, notwithstanding any other law. ~~Except as provided in subsection (c),~~ Whenever the city sells any such property to anyone for private use, the property becomes liable for all taxes after that, as other property is so liable and is assessed, and the board shall report all such sales to the **township county** assessor, who shall cause the property to be upon the proper tax records.

~~(c) If the duties of the township assessor have been transferred to the county assessor as described in IC 6-1.1-1-24, a reference to the township assessor in this section is considered to be a reference to the county assessor.~~

SECTION 167. THE FOLLOWING ARE REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: IC 3-8-1-23.5; IC 3-10-2-14; IC 3-13-10-3; IC 6-1.1-1-5.5; IC 6-1.1-1-22; IC 6-1.1-1-22.7; IC 6-1.1-1-24; IC 6-1.1-4-13.8; IC 6-1.1-35-4; IC 6-1.1-35-5; IC 6-1.1-35.2-1; IC 6-1.1-35.5-9; IC 36-6-5.

SECTION 168. [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008] (a) **Notwithstanding any other provision of this act, an individual who before July 1, 2009, is:**

(1) elected to; or

(2) selected to fill a vacancy in;

the office of elected township assessor is entitled to remain in office until the end of the term to which the individual was elected or for which the individual was selected to fill a vacancy. The sole duty of the individual after June 30, 2008, is to assist the county assessor in the transfer, effective July 1, 2008, of records and operations from the township assessor to the county assessor under this act.

(b) **If the office of township assessor is subject to the election on November 4, 2008, the term of office of the incumbent township assessor as of that date ends on December 31, 2008.**

(c) **This SECTION expires January 1, 2013.**

SECTION 169. [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE] (a) **IC 3-13-11 does not apply to a vacancy in the office of elected township assessor that occurs after the effective date of this SECTION and before July 1, 2008.**

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1 (b) This SECTION expires July 1, 2008.

2 SECTION 170. [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008] (a) Each elected
3 township assessor or township trustee-assessor shall organize the
4 records of the township assessor's office relating to the assessment
5 of tangible property in a manner prescribed by the department of
6 local government finance and transfer the records to the county
7 assessor as directed by the department of local government
8 finance. The department of local government finance shall, before
9 January 1, 2009, determine a procedure and schedule for the
10 transfer of the records. A township assessor shall complete the
11 transfer of records and operations to the county assessor before the
12 township assessor's term expires.

13 (b) The assessors shall assist each other and coordinate their
14 efforts to:

15 (1) ensure an orderly transfer of all township assessor records
16 to the county assessor; and

17 (2) provide for an uninterrupted and professional transition
18 of the property assessment functions from the township
19 assessor to the county assessor consistent with the directions
20 of the department of local government finance and this act.

21 (c) This SECTION expires January 1, 2013.

22 SECTION 171. [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008] (a) This act does not
23 affect any assessment, assessment appeal, or other official action
24 of a township assessor made before expiration of the township
25 assessor's term. Any assessment, assessment appeal, or other
26 official action of a township assessor made by a township assessor
27 within the scope of the township assessor's official duties under
28 IC 6-1.1 or IC 36-6-5, before its repeal by this act, before
29 expiration of the township assessor's term shall be considered as
30 having been made by the county assessor.

31 (b) This act does not affect any pending action against, or the
32 rights of any party that may possess a legal claim against, a
33 township assessor that is not described in subsection (a).

34 (c) This SECTION expires January 1, 2013.

35 SECTION 172. [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008] (a) The department
36 of local government finance shall adjust the maximum permissible
37 ad valorem tax levy of a county and a township in the county to
38 reflect the transfer of records and operations from the township
39 assessor to the county assessor under this act. The adjusted
40 maximum permissible ad valorem tax levies determined under this
41 SECTION apply to property taxes first due and payable in the
42 calendar year following the calendar year in which the transfer of

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1 records and operations was completed.

2 (b) This SECTION expires January 1, 2013.

3 SECTION 173. [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE] (a) Before
4 January 1, 2009, the department of local government finance shall
5 prepare a request for funding of the software system referred to in
6 IC 6-1.1-31.5-3.5(e), as amended by this act, in the state biennial
7 budget for the state fiscal years beginning July 1, 2008, and ending
8 June 30, 2010.

9 (b) This SECTION expires July 1, 2010.

10 SECTION 174. [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE] (a) The following
11 are transferred to the county assessor:

12 (1) On July 1, 2008:

13 (A) employment positions as of June 30, 2008, of each
14 elected township assessor in the county, including:

15 (i) the employment position of the elected township
16 assessor; and

17 (ii) the employment positions of all employees of the
18 elected township assessor;

19 (B) real and personal property of elected township
20 assessors and township trustee-assessors in the county used
21 solely to carry out property assessment duties;

22 (C) obligations outstanding on June 30, 2008, of elected
23 township assessors and township trustee-assessors in the
24 county relating to property assessment duties; and

25 (D) funds on hand for the purpose of carrying out property
26 assessment duties in the amount determined by the county
27 auditor.

28 (2) On the date an individual referred to in SECTION 165 of
29 this act leaves office, funds on hand for the operation of the
30 individual's office in the amount determined by the county
31 auditor.

32 (b) Before July 1, 2008, the county assessor shall interview, or
33 give the opportunity to interview to, each individual who:

34 (1) is an employee of an elected township assessor or a
35 trustee-assessor in the county as of the effective date of this
36 SECTION; and

37 (2) applies before June 1, 2008, for an employment position
38 referred to in subsection (a)(1)(A).

39 (c) A township shall transfer to the county assessor all revenue
40 received after June 30, 2008, that is received by the township for
41 the purpose of carrying out property assessment duties in the
42 amount determined by the county auditor.

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1 SECTION 175. [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008] (a) The legislative
 2 services agency shall prepare legislation for introduction in the
 3 2009 regular session of the general assembly to correct statutes
 4 affected by this act.
 5 (b) This SECTION expires July 1, 2009.
 6 SECTION 176. An emergency is declared for this act.

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SENATE MOTION

Madam President: I move that Senators Meeks, Boots and Errington be added as coauthors of Senate Bill 16.

LAWSON C

 COMMITTEE REPORT

Madam President: The Senate Committee on Local Government and Elections, to which was referred Senate Bill No. 16, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the Senate with the recommendation that said bill be AMENDED as follows:

Replace the effective dates in SECTIONS 5 through 163 with "[EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]".

Replace the effective dates in SECTIONS 165 through 167 with "[EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]".

Page 6, line 17, strike "township".

Page 6, line 17, delete "assessors (if any),".

Page 6, line 40, after "county assessor" delete "," and insert "**and**".

Page 6, line 40, strike "and township assessor".

Page 6, line 41, delete "(if any),".

Page 7, delete line 23.

Page 8, line 34, strike "township" and insert "**county**".

Page 8, line 34, delete "(if any)." and insert ".".

Page 8, delete line 35.

Page 9, line 10, strike "township" and insert "**county**".

Page 9, line 10, delete "(if any);" and insert "; or".

Page 9, delete line 11.

Page 9, line 12, reset in roman "(2)".

Page 9, line 12, delete "(3)".

Page 9, delete lines 34 through 39.

Page 10, delete lines 15 through 36, begin a new paragraph and insert:

"(d) If a personal property return is filed pursuant to subsection (c), the owner of the property shall provide, within forty-five (45) days after the filing deadline, a copy or other written evidence of the filing of the return to the **county** assessor of the ~~township~~ **county** in which the owner resides. If such evidence is not filed within forty-five (45) days after the filing deadline, the **county** assessor of the ~~township~~ **county** in

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which the owner resides shall determine if the owner filed a personal property return in the ~~township~~ **county** where the property is situated. If such a return was filed, the property shall be assessed where it is situated. If such a return was not filed, the **county** assessor of the ~~township~~ **county** where the owner resides shall notify the **county** assessor of the ~~township~~ **county** where the property is situated, and the property shall be assessed where it is situated. This subsection does not apply to a taxpayer who:

- (1) is required to file duplicate personal property returns under section 7(c) of this chapter and under regulations promulgated by the department of local government finance with respect to that section; or
- (2) is required by the department of local government finance to file a summary of the taxpayer's business tangible personal property returns."

Page 10, delete lines 37 through 42, begin a new paragraph and insert:

"SECTION 13. IC 6-1.1-3-4 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 4. (a) If a question arises as to the proper place to assess personal property ~~the county assessor shall determine the place if the conflict involves different townships which are located within the county the assessor serves. If~~ **and** the conflict involves ~~different two (2) or more~~ **different two (2) or more** counties, the department of local government finance shall determine the proper place of assessment.

(b) A determination made under this section by ~~a county assessor or~~ the department of local government finance is final.

(c) If taxes are paid to a county which is not entitled to collect them, the department of local government finance may direct the authorities of the county which wrongfully collected the taxes to refund the taxes collected and any penalties charged on the taxes."

Page 11, delete lines 1 through 12.

Page 11, line 15, after "to" strike "each" and insert "**the county**".

Page 11, line 16, strike "township".

Page 11, line 16, delete "(if any) and the county assessor".

Page 11, line 21, strike "appropriate".

Page 11, line 22, before "assessor," strike "township" and insert "**county**".

Page 11, line 22, delete ", or the county assessor if there is no township".

Page 11, line 23, delete "assessor for the township,".

Page 11, delete lines 26 through 42, begin a new paragraph and

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insert:

"SECTION 16. IC 6-1.1-3-7 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 7. (a) Except as provided in subsections (b) and (d), a taxpayer shall, on or before the filing date of each year, file a personal property return with the **county** assessor of ~~each township~~ **the county** in which the taxpayer's personal property is subject to assessment.

(b) The ~~township~~ **county** assessor may grant a taxpayer an extension of not more than thirty (30) days to file the taxpayer's return if:

- (1) the taxpayer submits a written application for an extension prior to the filing date; and
- (2) the taxpayer is prevented from filing a timely return because of sickness, absence from the county, or any other good and sufficient reason.

(c) If the sum of the assessed values reported by a taxpayer on the business personal property returns which the taxpayer files with the ~~township~~ **county** assessor for a year exceeds one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000), the taxpayer shall file each of the returns in duplicate.

(d) ~~A taxpayer may file a consolidated return with the county assessor. If the a taxpayer has personal property subject to assessment in more than one (1) township in a county, and the total assessed value of the personal property in the county is less than one million five hundred thousand dollars (\$1,500,000): A the taxpayer filing a consolidated return shall attach a schedule listing, by township, all the taxpayer's personal property and the property's assessed value. A taxpayer filing a consolidated return is not required to file a personal property return with the assessor of each township: A The taxpayer filing a consolidated return shall provide the following: (1) the county assessor with the information necessary for the county assessor to allocate the assessed value of the taxpayer's personal property among the townships listed on the return, including the street address, the township, and the location of the property.~~

~~(2) A copy of the consolidated return, with attachments, for each township listed on the return."~~

Page 12, delete lines 1 through 24.

Page 13, line 23, strike "township" and insert "**county**".

Page 13, line 23, delete ", or the county assessor if there is no".

Page 13, line 24, delete "township assessor for the township,".

Page 13, line 35, strike "township" and insert "**county**".

Page 13, line 36, delete ", or the county assessor if there is no township assessor for".

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Page 13, line 37, delete "the township,".
 Page 13, line 41, strike "township".
 Page 13, line 42, before "county" delete "or".
 Page 14, line 8, strike "township".
 Page 14, line 8, delete "or".
 Page 14, line 9, strike "township".
 Page 14, line 9, delete "or".
 Page 14, line 20, strike "township".
 Page 14, line 20, delete "or".
 Page 14, line 24, strike "township".
 Page 14, line 24, delete "or".
 Page 14, line 29, strike "township".
 Page 14, line 29, delete "or".
 Page 14, line 33, strike "township".
 Page 14, line 33, delete "or".

Page 14, delete lines 35 through 42, begin a new paragraph and insert:

"SECTION 21. IC 6-1.1-3-17 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 17. ~~(a) On or before June 1 of each year, each township assessor of a county shall deliver to the county assessor a list which states by taxing district the total of the personal property assessments as shown on the personal property returns filed with the assessor on or before the filing date of that year and in a county with a township assessor under IC 36-6-5-1 in every township the township assessor shall deliver the lists to the county auditor as prescribed in subsection (b).~~

~~(b)~~ **(a)** On or before July 1 of each year, each county assessor shall certify to the county auditor the assessment value of the personal property in every taxing district.

~~(c)~~ **(b)** The department of local government finance shall prescribe the forms required by this section.

SECTION 22. IC 6-1.1-3-18, AS AMENDED BY P.L.219-2007, SECTION 11, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 18. ~~(a) Each township~~ **The county** assessor of a ~~county~~ shall periodically report to the ~~county assessor and the county auditor with respect to the returns and properties of taxpayers which the township county assessor has examined.~~ **The township county** assessor shall submit these reports in the form and on the dates prescribed by the department of local government finance.

~~(b) Each year, on or before the time prescribed by the department of local government finance, each township assessor of a county shall deliver to the county assessor a copy of each business personal property~~

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return which the taxpayer is required to file in duplicate under section 7(c) of this chapter and a copy of any supporting data supplied by the taxpayer with the return. Each year, the county assessor:

(1) shall review and may audit ~~those the business personal property~~ returns ~~that the taxpayer is required to file in duplicate under section 7(c) of this chapter~~; and

(2) shall determine the returns in which the assessment appears to be improper."

Page 15, delete lines 1 through 25.

Page 15, line 29, strike "township" and insert "**county**".

Page 15, line 29, strike "of the county".

Page 15, line 29, delete "(if any)".

Page 15, line 30, strike "county assessor and the".

Page 15, line 33, delete "township" and insert "**county**".

Page 16, line 11, strike "township" and insert "**county**".

Page 16, line 11, delete ", or the county".

Page 16, line 12, delete "assessor if there is no township assessor for the township,".

Page 17, line 11, delete "township assessors,".

Page 17, line 11, after "county assessors" delete ",".

Page 17, line 27, before "assessor" insert "**county**".

Page 17, line 27, strike "township" and insert "**county**".

Page 17, line 27, delete ", or the" and insert ".".

Page 17, delete line 28.

Page 17, line 38, before "assessor" insert "**county**".

Page 17, line 39, strike "township" and insert "**county**".

Page 17, line 39, delete ", or the county assessor" and insert ".".

Page 17, line 40, delete "if there is no township assessor for the township,".

Page 18, line 15, strike "appropriate township" and insert "**county**".

Page 18, line 15, delete "(if)".

Page 18, delete line 16.

Page 18, line 17, delete "township,".

Page 18, line 20, strike "appropriate township" and insert "**county**".

Page 18, line 20, delete ", or the county assessor if".

Page 18, line 21, delete "there is no township assessor for the township,".

Page 18, line 26, strike "township".

Page 18, line 26, delete "and".

Page 18, line 30, before "assessor," strike "township" and insert "**county**".

Page 18, line 30, delete ", or the county assessor if there is no

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township".

Page 18, line 31, delete "assessor for the township,".

Page 18, line 33, strike "township".

Page 18, line 33, delete "or".

Page 19, line 20, strike "The county assessor shall notify all township assessors in the".

Page 19, line 21, before "(if" strike "county".

Page 19, line 21, delete "(if any)".

Page 19, line 21, strike "of the values as modified by the county property tax".

Page 19, line 22, strike "assessment board of appeals.".

Page 19, delete lines 24 through 42.

Delete pages 20 through 21.

Page 22, delete lines 1 through 38, begin a new paragraph and insert:

"SECTION 31. IC 6-1.1-4-15 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 15. (a) If real property is subject to assessment or reassessment under this chapter, the **county** assessor of the township in which the property is located shall either appraise the property ~~himself~~ or have it appraised.

(b) In order to determine the assessed value of buildings and other improvements, the ~~township~~ **county** assessor or ~~his~~ **the assessor's** authorized representative may, after first making known ~~his~~ **the assessor's or representative's** intention to the owner or occupant, enter and fully examine all buildings and structures which are located within the ~~township he serves~~ **county** and which are subject to assessment.".

Page 23, line 1, after "chapter, any" delete "a".

Page 23, line 1, strike "township assessor".

Page 23, line 1, delete "(if any)".

Page 23, line 1, strike "and".

Page 23, delete lines 27 through 33 and insert "**subsection only if the department:**

(1) is a party to the employment contract; and

(2) determines that:

(A) the professional appraiser or appraisal firm has sufficient training and experience to perform the employment duties; and

(B) with respect to employment of a professional appraisal firm, the firm has a sufficient number of qualified employees for the employment."

Page 25, line 29, after "finance;" strike "and".

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Page 25, line 32, delete "." and insert "; and

(8) a provision stating that the department of local government finance is a party to the contract."

Page 26, line 14, strike "township".

Page 26, line 14, delete "or".

Page 27, line 14, strike "township".

Page 27, line 14, delete "or".

Page 27, delete lines 20 through 42, begin a new paragraph and insert:

"SECTION 39. IC 6-1.1-4-25, AS AMENDED BY P.L.177-2005, SECTION 27, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 25. (a) Each ~~township~~ **county** assessor shall keep the assessor's reassessment data and records current by securing the necessary field data and by making changes in the assessed value of real property as changes occur in the use of the real property. The ~~township~~ **county** assessor's records shall at all times show the assessed value of real property in accordance with ~~the provisions of~~ this chapter. ~~The township assessor shall ensure that the county assessor has full access to the assessment records maintained by the township assessor.~~

(b) The ~~township~~ assessor in a county having a consolidated city or ~~the county assessor in every other county~~, shall:

(1) maintain an electronic data file of:

(A) the parcel characteristics and parcel assessments of all parcels; and

(B) the personal property return characteristics and assessments by return;

for each township in the county as of each assessment date;

(2) maintain the electronic file in a form that formats the information in the file with the standard data, field, and record coding required and approved by:

(A) the legislative services agency; and

(B) the department of local government finance;

(3) transmit the data in the file with respect to the assessment date of each year before October 1 of the year to:

(A) the legislative services agency; and

(B) the department of local government finance;

in a manner that meets the data export and transmission requirements in a standard format, as prescribed by the office of technology established by IC 4-13.1-2-1 and approved by the legislative services agency; and

(4) resubmit the data in the form and manner required under this subsection, upon request of the legislative services agency or the

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department of local government finance, if data previously submitted under this subsection does not comply with the requirements of this subsection, as determined by the legislative services agency or the department of local government finance. An electronic data file maintained for a particular assessment date may not be overwritten with data for a subsequent assessment date until a copy of an electronic data file that preserves the data for the particular assessment date is archived in the manner prescribed by the office of technology established by IC 4-13.1-2-1 and approved by the legislative services agency."

Page 28, delete lines 1 through 23.

Page 30, line 26, strike "However, in a county with".

Page 30, line 26, after "elected" delete "a".

Page 30, line 26, strike "township".

Page 30, strike lines 27 through 29.

Page 31, line 12, strike "township".

Page 31, line 13, before "(if any)" strike "assessors".

Page 31, line 13, delete "(if any)".

Page 31, line 13, after "county assessors" delete ",".

Page 31, line 32, strike "(A) the township assessor".

Page 31, line 32, delete "(if any)".

Page 31, line 32, strike "of each affected township;".

Page 31, line 33, strike "(B)" and insert "(A)".

Page 31, line 34, strike "(C)" and insert "(B)".

Page 32, line 7, strike "(A) the township assessor of each affected township".

Page 32, line 7, delete "(if any);".

Page 32, line 8, strike "(B)" and insert "(A)".

Page 32, line 9, strike "(C)" and insert "(B)".

Page 32, between lines 22 and 23, begin a new paragraph and insert:

"(f) A county council president who is informed by the department of local government finance under subsection (a) shall provide the information to the board of county commissioners. A board of county commissioners that receives information under this subsection may adopt an ordinance determining that:

(1) the information indicates that the county assessor has failed to perform adequately the duties of county assessor; and

(2) by that failure the county assessor forfeits the office of county assessor and is subject to removal from office by an information filed under IC 34-17-2-1(b)."

Page 38, line 25, after "auditor;" insert "and".

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Page 38, line 26, delete ";" and insert ".".
 Page 38, line 26, strike "and".
 Page 38, line 27, strike "(4) the township assessor".
 Page 38, line 27, delete "(if any)".
 Page 38, line 27, strike "of the township in which the".
 Page 38, strike line 28.
 Page 40, line 19, strike "(C) the township assessor".
 Page 40, line 19, delete "(if any)".
 Page 40, line 20, strike "(D)" and insert "(C)".
 Page 40, line 39, strike "township assessor".
 Page 40, line 39, delete "(if any)".
 Page 40, line 39, strike "and the".
 Page 41, line 42, strike "township" and insert "**county**".
 Page 41, line 42, delete "(if any) or the county assessor".
 Page 42, line 11, delete "township".
 Page 42, line 12, delete "or".
 Page 42, line 38, strike "township".
 Page 42, line 38, delete "or".
 Page 42, line 40, strike "township".
 Page 42, line 40, delete "or".
 Page 43, line 12, strike "township" and insert "**county**".
 Page 43, line 12, delete "(if any) or".
 Page 43, line 13, delete "the county assessor".
 Page 43, line 13, strike "township".
 Page 43, line 14, delete "or".

Page 43, delete lines 18 through 33, begin a new paragraph and insert:

"SECTION 50. IC 6-1.1-5-9 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 9. Except as provided in section 4(b) of this chapter, ~~for all civil townships in which in a~~ **county containing** a consolidated city, ~~is situated, the township county~~ assessor has the duties and authority described in sections 1 through 8 of this chapter. These duties and authority include effecting the transfer of title to real property and preparing, maintaining, approving, correcting, indexing, and publishing the list or record of, or description of title to, real property. If a court renders a judgment for the partition or transfer of real property located in ~~one (1) of these townships, a~~ **county containing a consolidated city**, the clerk of the court shall deliver the transcript to the **township county** assessor."

Page 44, line 1, strike "township" and insert "**county**".

Page 44, line 2, delete ", or the county assessor if there is no township assessor for".

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Page 44, line 3, delete "the township,".
 Page 44, line 9, strike "township" and insert "**county**".
 Page 44, strike lines 11 through 19.
 Page 44, line 21, strike "township" and insert "**county**".
 Page 44, line 22, delete ", or the county assessor if there is no township assessor for".
 Page 44, line 23, delete "the township,".
 Page 45, line 32, strike "Not later than May 15, each".
 Page 45, line 33, delete "township assessor in the county (if any)".
 Page 45, line 33, strike "shall prepare and".
 Page 45, strike line 34.
 Page 45, line 35, strike "for taxation in the township".
 Page 46, strike lines 24 through 26.
 Page 46, line 27, strike "of the township".
 Page 46, line 27, delete "(if any)".
 Page 46, line 27, strike "in which the real property to be demolished,".
 Page 46, strike line 28.
 Page 46, line 29, strike "(e)" and insert "**(d)**".
 Page 46, line 33, strike "(f)" and insert "**(e)**".
 Page 46, line 33, strike "township or".
 Page 46, line 38, strike "(g)" and insert "**(f)**".
 Page 48, line 9, strike "The county assessor shall forward".
 Page 48, strike line 10.
 Page 48, line 11, strike "county".
 Page 48, strike lines 16 through 17.
 Page 48, line 18, delete "(if any)".
 Page 48, line 18, strike "The township".
 Page 48, line 18, delete "or county".
 Page 48, line 18, strike "assessor shall forward the sales".
 Page 48, strike lines 19 through 26.
 Page 48, line 27, strike "(e)" and insert "**(d)**".
 Page 48, line 30, strike "(f)" and insert "**(e)**".
 Page 49, delete lines 4 through 11, begin a new paragraph and insert:
 "(c) The ~~township assessor in a county containing a consolidated city, or the county assessor in any other county~~; shall:
 (1) determine the penalty imposed under this section;
 (2) assess the penalty to the party to a conveyance; and
 (3) notify the party to the conveyance that the penalty is payable not later than thirty (30) days after notice of the assessment."
 Page 49, line 24, after "to the" insert "**county**".

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Page 49, line 25, strike "township" and insert "**county**".
 Page 49, line 25, delete ", or the county assessor if there".
 Page 49, line 26, delete "is no township assessor for the township".
 Page 49, line 33, before "assessor" insert "**county**".
 Page 49, line 33, strike "township" and insert "**county**".
 Page 49, line 34, delete ", or the county assessor if there is no township assessor for" and insert ".".
 Page 49, line 35, delete "the township".
 Page 49, line 35, after "Each" strike "township" and insert "**county**".
 Page 49, line 35, delete "and the county".
 Page 49, line 36, delete "assessor".
 Page 50, line 1, strike "assessor of each".
 Page 50, line 2, strike "township".
 Page 50, line 2, delete "(if any)".
 Page 50, line 2, strike "and".
 Page 50, line 6, strike "township".
 Page 50, line 6, delete "or".
 Page 50, delete lines 7 through 24, begin a new paragraph and insert:
 "SECTION 61. IC 6-1.1-8-24, AS AMENDED BY P.L.88-2005, SECTION 10, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 24. (a) Each year a ~~township~~ **the county** assessor shall:
 (1) assess the fixed property ~~which that~~ as of the assessment date of that year is:
 (†) (A) owned or used by a public utility company; and
 (2) (B) located in ~~the each~~ township ~~in the township assessor serves:~~ **county; and**
 (b) ~~The township assessor shall determine the assessed value of fixed property. The A township assessor shall certify the assessed values to the county assessor on or before April 1 of the year of assessment. However, in a county with an elected township assessor in every township the township assessor shall certify the list to the department of local government finance. The county assessor shall review the assessed values and shall~~
 (2) certify the assessed values to the department of local government finance on or before April 10 of ~~the that~~ year. ~~of assessment.~~"
 Page 50, line 27, strike "township".
 Page 50, line 27, delete "or".
 Page 50, line 29, strike "township".
 Page 50, line 29, delete "or".

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Page 50, line 38, strike "appropriate township" and insert "**county**".
 Page 50, line 38, delete ", or the county assessor if there is".
 Page 50, line 39, delete "no township assessor for the township".
 Page 51, line 5, before "assessor" strike "township" and insert "**county**".
 Page 51, line 5, after "each" strike "township".
 Page 51, line 5, delete "(if any)".
 Page 51, line 5, strike "in a".
 Page 51, line 7, strike "township served by".
 Page 51, line 8, strike "the township assessor." and insert "**county**".
 Page 51, line 8, delete "The county assessor shall perform this duty".
 Page 51, delete lines 9 through 10.
 Page 51, line 22, strike "township assessor".
 Page 51, line 22, delete "(if any)".
 Page 51, line 23, delete ",".
 Page 51, line 32, strike "The county".
 Page 51, strike line 33.
 Page 51, line 34, delete "(if any)".
 Page 51, line 34, strike "all returns for tangible property made by the township".
 Page 51, strike lines 35 through 36.
 Page 51, line 37, strike "township assessors".
 Page 52, line 19, strike "township".
 Page 52, line 19, delete "or".
 Page 52, line 34, strike "township".
 Page 52, line 34, delete "or".
 Page 53, line 12, strike "township".
 Page 53, line 12, delete "or".
 Page 53, line 15, strike "township".
 Page 53, line 15, delete "or".
 Page 53, line 17, strike "township".
 Page 53, line 17, delete "or".
 Page 53, line 22, strike "township".
 Page 53, line 22, delete "or".
 Page 55, delete lines 7 through 11, begin a new paragraph and insert:
 "(c) On verification of the correctness of a property tax credit application by the ~~assessors~~ **county assessor** of the ~~townships~~ **county** in which the inventory is located, the county auditor shall grant the property tax credit."
 Page 56, delete lines 17 through 32, begin a new paragraph and insert:

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"(e) An owner must file with an application for exemption of real property under subsection (a) or section 5 of this chapter a copy of the **township county** assessor's record kept under IC 6-1.1-4-25(a) that shows the calculation of the assessed value of the real property for the assessment date for which the exemption is claimed. ~~Upon receipt of the exemption application, the county assessor shall examine that record and determine if the real property for which the exemption is claimed is properly assessed. If the county assessor determines that the real property is not properly assessed, the county assessor shall direct the township assessor of the township in which the real property is located to:~~

- (1) properly assess the real property; and
- (2) notify the county assessor and county auditor of the proper assessment."

Page 57, line 20, strike "township".

Page 57, line 20, delete "or".

Page 57, delete lines 37 through 40, begin a new paragraph and insert:

"(e) On verification of an application by the **county** assessor, ~~of the township in which the property is located,~~ the county auditor shall make the deduction."

Page 58, line 14, strike "township".

Page 58, line 14, delete "or".

Page 58, delete lines 29 through 32, begin a new paragraph and insert:

"(e) On verification of an application by the **county** assessor, ~~of the township in which the property is located,~~ the county auditor shall make the deduction."

Page 59, line 6, after "by the" insert "**county**".

Page 59, line 6, strike "township" and insert "**county**".

Page 59, line 7, delete "or the".

Page 59, delete line 8.

Page 61, line 2, after "The" strike "township" and insert "**county**".

Page 61, line 2, delete ", or the county assessor if there is no township".

Page 61, line 3, delete "assessor for the township,".

Page 61, line 11, strike "township".

Page 61, line 11, delete "assessor, the".

Page 61, line 11, after "county assessor" delete ",".

Page 61, line 31, after "by the" insert "**county**".

Page 61, line 32, strike "township" and insert "**county**".

Page 61, line 33, delete "or the county assessor if there is no

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township assessor".

Page 61, line 34, delete "for the township,".

Page 62, line 11, after "by the" insert "**county**".

Page 62, line 11, strike "township" and insert "**county**".

Page 62, line 13, delete "or the county assessor if there is no township assessor".

Page 62, line 14, delete "for the township,".

Page 62, line 34, strike "township".

Page 62, line 35, delete "assessor, the".

Page 62, line 35, after "county assessor" delete ",,".

Page 64, line 1, after "by the" insert "**county**".

Page 64, line 1, strike "township" and insert "**county**".

Page 64, line 2, delete "or the county assessor if there is no".

Page 64, line 3, delete "township assessor for the township,".

Page 65, line 21, before "assessor," strike "township" and insert "**county**".

Page 65, line 21, delete ", or the county assessor if there is no township".

Page 65, line 22, delete "assessor for the township,".

Page 66, line 9, before "assessor," strike "township" and insert "**county**".

Page 66, line 9, delete ", or the county assessor if there is no township".

Page 66, line 10, delete "assessor for the township,".

Page 66, line 33, strike "township".

Page 66, line 33, delete "or".

Page 68, line 6, strike "township".

Page 68, line 6, delete "or".

Page 68, line 11, after "that the" strike "township" and insert "**county**".

Page 68, line 11, after "of the" strike "township" and insert "**county**".

Page 68, line 12, delete ", or the county assessor if there is no".

Page 68, line 13, delete "township assessor for the township,".

Page 68, line 16, strike "requesting" and insert "**filing a notice**".

Page 68, line 16, strike "a preliminary conference".

Page 68, line 35, strike "township".

Page 68, line 35, delete "or".

Page 69, line 42, after "that the" strike "township" and insert "**county**".

Page 69, line 42, after "of the" strike "township" and insert "**county**".

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Page 70, line 1, delete ", or the county assessor".

Page 70, line 2, delete "if there is no township assessor for the township,".

Page 70, line 5, strike "requesting" and insert "**filing a notice**".

Page 70, line 5, strike "a preliminary".

Page 70, line 6, strike "conference".

Page 71, line 4, before "assessor" strike "township" and insert "**county**".

Page 71, line 4, after "of the" strike "township" and insert "**county**".

Page 71, line 7, delete ", or with the county assessor if there is no township assessor" and insert ".".

Page 71, line 8, delete "for the township.".

Page 71, line 15, strike "township".

Page 71, line 15, delete "or".

Page 71, line 17, delete "The township assessor shall forward to".

Page 71, delete lines 18 through 19.

Page 72, line 4, strike "township assessor, or the".

Page 72, line 4, delete "if there is no".

Page 72, line 5, delete "township assessor for the township,".

Page 72, line 10, strike "township".

Page 72, line 10, strike "or".

Page 72, line 13, before "assessor or the" strike "township".

Page 72, line 13, before "the" strike "or".

Page 72, line 13, after "assessor. A" strike "township".

Page 72, line 13, before "a" strike "or".

Page 72, line 32, strike "township".

Page 72, line 33, before "the county" strike "or".

Page 72, line 34, strike "requesting" and insert "**filing a notice**".

Page 72, line 34, strike "a preliminary conference".

Page 72, line 35, strike "township".

Page 72, line 35, strike "or".

Page 72, line 36, strike "township".

Page 72, line 36, strike "or".

Page 73, line 14, after "by the" insert "**county**".

Page 73, line 15, strike "township" and insert "**county**".

Page 73, line 15, delete ", or by the county assessor" and insert ".".

Page 73, delete line 16.

Page 75, line 6, after "auditor;" insert "**or**".

Page 75, line 7, delete ";" and insert ".".

Page 75, line 7, strike "or".

Page 75, line 8, strike "(3) a township assessor".

Page 75, line 8, delete "(if any).".

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- Page 76, line 1, strike "township" and insert "**county**".
- Page 76, line 1, delete ", or the".
- Page 76, delete line 2.
- Page 77, line 20, strike "township" and insert "**county**".
- Page 77, line 20, delete ",".
- Page 77, delete line 21.
- Page 77, line 22, delete "township,".
- Page 77, line 40, after "assessor" insert ",".
- Page 77, line 40, strike "or the".
- Page 77, line 41, strike "township assessor".
- Page 77, line 41, delete "(if any),".
- Page 78, line 13, strike "returned by the township assessors".
- Page 78, line 13, delete "(if any)".
- Page 78, line 13, strike "and as".
- Page 78, delete lines 18 through 30.
- Page 78, line 33, before "a" delete ",".
- Page 78, line 33, strike "a township assessor".
- Page 78, line 33, delete "(if any),".
- Page 79, line 10, strike "township".
- Page 79, line 10, delete "assessor (if any)".
- Page 79, line 10, strike "and".
- Page 79, line 10, delete "the".
- Page 79, delete lines 27 through 42, begin a new paragraph and insert:
- "SECTION 95. IC 6-1.1-15-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.1-2008, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 1. (a) A taxpayer may obtain a review by the county board of a county ~~or township~~ official's action with respect to **either or both of the following:**
- (1) The assessment of the taxpayer's tangible property. ~~if the official's action requires the giving of notice to the taxpayer:~~
 - (2) **A deduction for which a review under this section is authorized by any of the following:**
 - (A) IC 6-1.1-12-25.5.
 - (B) IC 6-1.1-12-28.5.
 - (C) IC 6-1.1-12-35.5.
 - (D) IC 6-1.1-12.1-5.
 - (E) IC 6-1.1-12.1-5.3.
 - (F) IC 6-1.1-12.1-5.4.
- (b) At the time that notice **of an action referred to in subsection (a)** is given to the taxpayer, the taxpayer shall also be informed in writing of:

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- (1) the opportunity for a review under this section, including a **preliminary informal** meeting under ~~subsection (h)~~ **subsection (h)(2)** with the county ~~or township~~ official referred to in this subsection; and
- (2) the procedures the taxpayer must follow in order to obtain a review under this section.

~~(b)~~ **(c)** In order to obtain a review of an assessment **or deduction** effective for the assessment date to which the notice referred to in ~~subsection (a)~~ **subsection (b)** applies, the taxpayer must file a notice in writing with the county ~~or township~~ official referred to in subsection (a) not later than forty-five (45) days after the date of the notice referred to in ~~subsection (a)~~: **subsection (b)**.

~~(c)~~ **(d)** A taxpayer may obtain a review by the county board of the assessment of the taxpayer's tangible property effective for an assessment date for which a notice of assessment is not given as described in ~~subsection (a)~~: **subsection (b)**. To obtain the review, the taxpayer must file a notice in writing with the ~~township~~ **county** assessor. ~~of the township in which the property is subject to assessment.~~ The right of a taxpayer to obtain a review under this subsection for an assessment date for which a notice of assessment is not given does not relieve an assessing official of the duty to provide the taxpayer with the notice of assessment as otherwise required by this article. For an assessment date in a year before 2009, the notice must be filed on or before May 10 of the year. For an assessment date in a year after 2008, the notice must be filed not later than the later of:

- (1) May 10 of the year; or
- (2) forty-five (45) days after the date of the statement mailed by the county auditor under IC 6-1.1-17-3(b).

~~(d)~~ **(e)** A change in an assessment made as a result of a notice for review filed by a taxpayer under ~~subsection (c)~~ **subsection (d)** after the time prescribed in ~~subsection (c)~~ **subsection (d)** becomes effective for the next assessment date. A change in an assessment made as a result of a notice for review filed by a taxpayer under ~~subsection (b) or (c)~~ **subsection (c) or (d)** remains in effect from the assessment date for which the change is made until the next assessment date for which the assessment is changed under this article.

~~(e)~~ **(f)** The written notice filed by a taxpayer under ~~subsection (b) or (c)~~ **subsection (c) or (d)** must include the following information:

- (1) The name of the taxpayer.
- (2) The address and parcel or key number of the property.
- (3) The address and telephone number of the taxpayer.

(g) The filing of a notice under subsection (c) or (d):

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- (1) initiates a review under this section; and
- (2) constitutes a request by the taxpayer for a preliminary informal meeting with the county official referred to in subsection (a).

~~⊕~~ (h) A county ~~or township~~ official who receives a notice for review filed by a taxpayer under ~~subsection (b) or (c)~~ subsection (c) or (d) shall:

- (1) immediately forward the notice to the county board; and
- (2) attempt to hold a preliminary informal meeting with the taxpayer to resolve as many issues as possible by:
 - (A) discussing the specifics of the taxpayer's assessment or deduction;
 - (B) reviewing the taxpayer's property record card;
 - (C) explaining to the taxpayer how the assessment or deduction was determined;
 - (D) providing to the taxpayer information about the statutes, rules, and guidelines that govern the determination of the assessment or deduction;
 - (E) noting and considering objections of the taxpayer;
 - (F) considering all errors alleged by the taxpayer; and
 - (G) otherwise educating the taxpayer about:
 - (i) the taxpayer's assessment or deduction;
 - (ii) the assessment or deduction process; and
 - (iii) the assessment or deduction appeal process.

(i) Not later than ten (10) days after the informal preliminary meeting, the county official referred to in subsection (a) shall forward to the county auditor and the county board the results of the conference on a form prescribed by the department of local government finance that must be completed and signed by the taxpayer and the official. The form must indicate the following:

- (1) If the taxpayer and the official agree on the resolution of all assessment or deduction issues in the review, a statement of:
 - (A) those issues; and
 - (B) the assessed value of the tangible property or the amount of the deduction that results from the resolution of those issues in the manner agreed to by the taxpayer and the official.
- (2) If the taxpayer and the official do not agree on the resolution of all assessment or deduction issues in the review:
 - (A) a statement of those issues; and
 - (B) identification of:

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- (i) the issues on which the taxpayer and the official agree; and
- (iii) the issues on which the taxpayer and the official disagree.

(j) If the county board receives a form referred to in subsection (i)(1) before the hearing scheduled under subsection (k):

- (1) the county board shall cancel the hearing;
- (2) the county official referred to in subsection (a) shall give notice to the taxpayer, the county board, the county assessor, and the county auditor of the assessment or deduction in the amount referred to in subsection (i)(1)(B); and
- (3) if the matter in issue is the assessment of tangible property, the county board may reserve the right to change the assessment under IC 6-1.1-13.

~~(g)~~ (k) If:

- (1) subsection (i)(2) applies; or
- (2) the county board does not receive a form referred to in subsection (i) not later than one hundred twenty (120) days after the date of the notice for review filed by the taxpayer under subsection (c) or (d);

the county board shall hold a hearing on a review under this subsection not later than one hundred eighty (180) days after the date of ~~the~~ **that** notice. ~~for review filed by the taxpayer under subsection (b) or (c).~~ The county board shall, by mail, give notice of the date, time, and place fixed for the hearing to the taxpayer and the county ~~or township~~ official with whom the taxpayer filed the notice for review. The taxpayer and the county ~~or township~~ official with whom the taxpayer filed the notice for review are parties to the proceeding before the county board. **The county assessor is recused from any action the county board takes with respect to an assessment determination by the county assessor.**

~~(h)~~ Before the county board holds the hearing required under subsection ~~(g)~~, the taxpayer may request a meeting by filing a written request with the county or township official with whom the taxpayer filed the notice for review to:

- ~~(1)~~ attempt to resolve as many issues under review as possible; and
- ~~(2)~~ seek a joint recommendation for settlement of some or all of the issues under review.

~~A county or township official who receives a meeting request under this subsection before the county board hearing shall meet with the taxpayer. The taxpayer and the county or township official shall present~~

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a joint recommendation reached under this subsection to the county board at the hearing required under subsection (g). The county board may adopt or reject the recommendation in whole or in part.

(i) **(l)** At the hearing required under ~~subsection (g): subsection (k):~~

(1) the taxpayer may present the taxpayer's reasons for disagreement with the assessment **or deduction**; and

(2) the county ~~or township~~ official with whom the taxpayer filed the notice for review must present:

(A) the basis for the assessment **or deduction** decision; and

(B) the reasons the taxpayer's contentions should be denied.

(j) **(m)** **The county official referred to in subsection (a) may not require the taxpayer to provide documentary evidence at the preliminary informal meeting under subsection (h).** The county board may not require a taxpayer to file documentary evidence or summaries of statements of testimonial evidence before the hearing required under ~~subsection (g): subsection (k)~~. If the action for which a taxpayer seeks review under this section is the assessment of tangible property, the taxpayer is not required to have an appraisal of the property in order to do the following:

(1) Initiate the review.

(2) Prosecute the review.

~~(k) (n)~~ **Regardless of whether the county board adopts a recommendation under subsection (h),** The county board shall prepare a written decision resolving all of the issues under review. The county board shall, by mail, give notice of its determination not later than one hundred twenty (120) days after the hearing under ~~subsection (g) subsection (k)~~ to the taxpayer, **the county official referred to in subsection (a),** the county assessor, and the ~~township assessor: county auditor.~~

~~(l) (o)~~ If the maximum time elapses:

(1) under ~~subsection (g) subsection (k)~~ for the county board to hold a hearing; or

(2) under ~~subsection (k) subsection (n)~~ for the county board to give notice of its determination;

the taxpayer may initiate a proceeding for review before the Indiana board by taking the action required by section 3 of this chapter at any time after the maximum time elapses."

Delete page 80.

Page 81, delete lines 1 through 39.

Page 82, line 8, before "the" delete ",".

Page 82, line 8, strike "the".

Page 82, line 8, strike "township assessor".

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Page 82, line 8, delete "(if any),".

Page 83, line 15, after "auditor," insert "**and**".

Page 83, line 15, after "county assessor" delete "," and insert ".".

Page 83, line 15, strike "and the township assessor".

Page 83, line 15, delete "(if any).".

Page 84, line 14, strike "township" and insert "**county**".

Page 84, line 14, delete "(if any)".

Page 84, line 15, delete "or county assessor".

Page 84, line 24, strike "(1) A township".

Page 84, line 24, delete "assessor (if any)".

Page 84, line 24, strike "must".

Page 84, strike lines 25 through 31.

Page 84, line 32, strike "(2) A county assessor" and insert "**(1) An assessing official**".

Page 85, line 1, strike "(3)" and insert "**(2)**".

Page 85, line 23, strike "(a)(3)" and insert "**(a)(2)**".

Page 85, line 35, strike "township assessor, or the".

Page 85, line 35, delete "if there is no township".

Page 85, line 36, delete "assessor for the township,".

Page 85, line 37, strike "township".

Page 85, line 37, strike "or".

Page 86, between lines 4 and 5, begin a new paragraph and insert:
 "SECTION 102. IC 6-1.1-17-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.154-2006,
 SECTION 42, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 1. (a) On or before August 1 of each year, the
 county auditor shall send a certified statement, under the seal of the
 board of county commissioners, to the fiscal officer of each political
 subdivision of the county and the department of local government
 finance. The statement shall contain:

- (1) information concerning the assessed valuation in the political subdivision for the next calendar year;
- (2) an estimate of the taxes to be distributed to the political subdivision during the last six (6) months of the current calendar year;
- (3) the current assessed valuation as shown on the abstract of charges;
- (4) the average growth in assessed valuation in the political subdivision over the preceding three (3) budget years, excluding years in which a general reassessment occurs, determined according to procedures established by the department of local government finance;
- (5) the amount of the political subdivision's assessed valuation

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reduction determined under section 0.5(d) of this chapter;

(6) for counties with taxing units that cross into or intersect with other counties, the assessed valuation as shown on the most current abstract of property; and

~~((7))~~ (7) any other information at the disposal of the county auditor that might affect the assessed value used in the budget adoption process.

(b) The estimate of taxes to be distributed shall be based on:

(1) the abstract of taxes levied and collectible for the current calendar year, less any taxes previously distributed for the calendar year; and

(2) any other information at the disposal of the county auditor which might affect the estimate.

(c) The fiscal officer of each political subdivision shall present the county auditor's statement to the proper officers of the political subdivision.

(d) Subject to subsection (e) and except as provided in subsection (f), after the county auditor sends a certified statement under subsection (a) or an amended certified statement under this subsection with respect to a political subdivision and before the department of local government finance certifies its action with respect to the political subdivision under section 16(f) of this chapter, the county auditor may amend the information concerning assessed valuation included in the earlier certified statement. The county auditor shall send a certified statement amended under this subsection, under the seal of the board of county commissioners, to:

(1) the fiscal officer of each political subdivision affected by the amendment; and

(2) the department of local government finance.

(e) Except as provided in subsection (g), before the county auditor makes an amendment under subsection (d), the county auditor must provide an opportunity for public comment on the proposed amendment at a public hearing. The county auditor must give notice of the hearing under IC 5-3-1. If the county auditor makes the amendment as a result of information provided to the county auditor by an assessor, the county auditor shall give notice of the public hearing to the assessor.

(f) Subsection (d) does not apply to an adjustment of assessed valuation under IC 36-7-15.1-26.9(d).

(g) The county auditor is not required to hold a public hearing under subsection (e) if:

(1) the amendment under subsection (d) is proposed to correct a

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mathematical error made in the determination of the amount of assessed valuation included in the earlier certified statement;

(2) the amendment under subsection (d) is proposed to add to the amount of assessed valuation included in the earlier certified statement assessed valuation of omitted property discovered after the county auditor sent the earlier certified statement; or

(3) the county auditor determines that the amendment under subsection (d) will not result in an increase in the tax rate or tax rates of the political subdivision.

SECTION 103. IC 6-1.1-17-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.219-2007, SECTION 49, AND AS AMENDED BY P.L.224-2007, SECTION 5, IS CORRECTED AND AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 3. (a) The proper officers of a political subdivision shall formulate its estimated budget and its proposed tax rate and tax levy on the form prescribed by the department of local government finance and approved by the state board of accounts. The political subdivision shall give notice by publication to taxpayers of:

- (1) the estimated budget;
- (2) the estimated maximum permissible levy;
- (3) the current and proposed tax levies of each fund; and
- (4) the amounts of excessive levy appeals to be requested.

In the notice, the political subdivision shall also state the time and place at which a public hearing will be held on these items. The notice shall be published twice in accordance with IC 5-3-1 with the first publication at least ten (10) days before the date fixed for the public hearing. Beginning in 2009, the duties required by this subsection must be completed before August 10 of the calendar year. A political subdivision shall provide the estimated budget and levy information required for the notice under subsection (b) to the county auditor on the schedule determined by the department of local government finance.

(b) Beginning in 2009, before August 10 of a calendar year, the county auditor shall mail to the last known address of each person liable for any property taxes, as shown on the tax duplicate, or to the last known address of the most recent owner shown in the transfer book, a statement that includes:

- (1) the assessed valuation as of the assessment date in the current calendar year of tangible property on which the person will be liable for property taxes first due and payable in the immediately succeeding calendar year and notice to the person of the opportunity to appeal the assessed valuation under ~~IC 6-1.1-15-1(b)~~; ~~IC 6-1.1-15-1(c)~~; IC 6-1.1-15-1.

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(2) the amount of property taxes for which the person will be liable to each political subdivision on the tangible property for taxes first due and payable in the immediately succeeding calendar year, taking into account all factors that affect that liability, including:

- (A) the estimated budget and proposed tax rate and tax levy formulated by the political subdivision under subsection (a);
- (B) any deductions or exemptions that apply to the assessed valuation of the tangible property;
- (C) any credits that apply in the determination of the tax liability; and
- (D) the county auditor's best estimate of the effects on the tax liability that might result from actions of:

- (i) the county board of tax adjustment (*before January 1, 2009*) or the county board of tax and capital projects review (*after December 31, 2008*); or
- (ii) the department of local government finance;

(3) a prominently displayed notation that:

- (A) the estimate under subdivision (2) is based on the best information available at the time the statement is mailed; and
- (B) based on various factors, including potential actions by:
 - (i) the county board of tax adjustment (*before January 1, 2009*) or the county board of tax and capital projects review (*after December 31, 2008*); or
 - (ii) the department of local government finance;

it is possible that the tax liability as finally determined will differ substantially from the estimate;

(4) comparative information showing the amount of property taxes for which the person is liable to each political subdivision on the tangible property for taxes first due and payable in the current year; and

(5) the date, time, and place at which the political subdivision will hold a public hearing on the political subdivision's estimated budget and proposed tax rate and tax levy as required under subsection (a).

(c) The department of local government finance shall:

- (1) prescribe a form for; and
- (2) provide assistance to county auditors in preparing;

statements under subsection (b). Mailing the statement described in subsection (b) to a mortgagee maintaining an escrow account for a person who is liable for any property taxes shall not be construed as compliance with subsection (b).

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(d) The board of directors of a solid waste management district established under IC 13-21 or IC 13-9.5-2 (before its repeal) may conduct the public hearing required under subsection (a):

- (1) in any county of the solid waste management district; and
- (2) in accordance with the annual notice of meetings published under IC 13-21-5-2.

(e) The trustee of each township in the county shall estimate the amount necessary to meet the cost of township assistance in the township for the ensuing calendar year. The township board shall adopt with the township budget a tax rate sufficient to meet the estimated cost of township assistance. The taxes collected as a result of the tax rate adopted under this subsection are credited to the township assistance fund.

(f) A county shall adopt with the county budget and the department of local government finance shall certify under section 16 of this chapter a tax rate sufficient to raise the levy necessary to pay the following:

- (1) The cost of child services (as defined in IC 12-19-7-1) of the county payable from the family and children's fund.
- (2) The cost of children's psychiatric residential treatment services (as defined in IC 12-19-7.5-1) of the county payable from the children's psychiatric residential treatment services fund.

A budget, tax rate, or tax levy adopted by a county fiscal body or approved or modified by a county board of tax adjustment that is less than the levy necessary to pay the costs described in subdivision (1) or (2) shall not be treated as a final budget, tax rate, or tax levy under section 11 of this chapter."

Page 88, line 14, strike "township assessors in the county".

Page 88, line 14, delete "(if any)".

Page 88, line 14, after "any)," strike "the".

Page 88, line 15, strike "township assessors".

Page 88, line 15, delete "(if any)".

Page 88, line 15, strike "and the county assessor, or the".

Page 88, line 22, strike "township or".

Page 91, line 22, strike "and".

Page 91, line 22, delete "the".

Page 91, line 23, strike "township assessors".

Page 91, line 23, delete "(if any)".

Page 91, line 26, strike "and".

Page 91, line 26, after "and" delete "the".

Page 91, line 26, strike "township".

Page 91, line 27, strike "assessors".

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- Page 91, line 27, delete "(if any)".
- Page 91, line 28, delete "assessor or".
- Page 91, line 28, strike "assessors" and insert "**county assessor**".
- Page 92, line 38, strike "township" and insert "**county**".
- Page 92, line 38, delete "or the".
- Page 92, delete line 39.
- Page 92, line 40, delete "township,".
- Page 95, line 30, after "(1) the" insert "**county**".
- Page 95, line 30, strike "township" and insert "**county**".
- Page 95, line 30, delete "," and insert ";".
- Page 95, delete lines 31 through 32.
- Page 96, line 6, after "(4) the" insert "**county**".
- Page 96, line 6, strike "township" and insert "**county**".
- Page 96, line 6, delete "," and insert ".".
- Page 96, delete lines 7 through 8.
- Page 96, line 38, after "(4) the" insert "**county**".
- Page 96, line 38, strike "township" and insert "**county**".
- Page 96, line 38, delete "," and insert ";".
- Page 96, delete line 39.
- Page 96, line 40, delete "township;".
- Page 97, line 21, after "(5) the" insert "**county**".
- Page 97, line 21, strike "township" and insert "**county**".
- Page 97, line 21, delete "," and insert ";".
- Page 97, delete line 22.
- Page 97, line 23, delete "township;".
- Page 99, between lines 19 and 20, begin a new paragraph and insert:
 "SECTION 109. IC 6-1.1-31.5-2, AS AMENDED BY
 P.L.228-2005, SECTION 25, IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 2. (a) Subject to section
 3.5(e) of this chapter, the department shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2
 to prescribe computer specification standards and for the certification
 of:
- (1) computer software;
 - (2) software providers;
 - (3) computer service providers; and
 - (4) computer equipment providers.
- (b) The rules of the department shall provide for:
- (1) the effective and efficient administration of assessment laws;
 - (2) the prompt updating of assessment data;
 - (3) the administration of information contained in the sales disclosure form, as required under IC 6-1.1-5.5; and
 - (4) other information necessary to carry out the administration of

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the property tax assessment laws.

(c) After ~~December 31, 1998~~, **June 30, 2008**, subject to section 3.5(e) of this chapter a county:

(1) may contract only for computer software and with software providers, computer service providers, and equipment providers that are certified by the department under the rules described in subsection (a); **and**

(2) **may enter into a contract referred to in subdivision (1) only if the department is a party to the contract.**

~~(d) The initial rules under this section must be adopted under IC 4-22-2 before January 1, 1998."~~

Page 100, line 20, reset in roman "before".

Page 100, line 20, after "2006," insert "**December 31, 2008**,".

Page 100, line 22, after "(1)" insert "**a single state-designed software system to provide**".

Page 100, line 23, strike "among" and insert "**for**".

Page 101, strike lines 16 through 18.

Page 102, delete lines 26 through 42.

Page 103, delete lines 1 through 3.

Page 107, line 38, strike "township".

Page 107, line 39, strike "assessor's assessment or a".

Page 108, line 7, strike "township assessor or".

Page 108, delete line 42.

Page 109, line 1, strike "(3)" and insert "**(2)**".

Page 109, line 2, strike "(4)" and insert "**(3)**".

Page 109, line 4, strike "(5)" and insert "**(4)**".

Page 110, line 27, strike "and the assessor of each township".

Page 110, line 27, delete "(if any),".

Page 112, line 1, strike "appropriate township" and insert "**county**".

Page 112, line 2 delete ", or the county assessor if there is no township assessor for".

Page 112, line 3, delete "the township,".

Page 112, line 31, strike "township".

Page 112, line 31, delete "or".

Page 113, line 23, delete "township" and insert "**county**".

Page 113, line 24, delete "or the county".

Page 113, line 25, delete "assessor,".

Page 113, line 29, strike "township" and insert "**county**".

Page 113, line 30, delete ", or the county assessor if there is no township assessor for".

Page 113, line 31, delete "the township,".

Page 113, between lines 35 and 36, begin a new paragraph and

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insert:

"SECTION 130. IC 6-1.1-37-10.7, AS ADDED BY P.L.67-2006, SECTION 12, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 10.7. (a) For purposes of this section, "immediate family member of the taxpayer" means an individual who:

- (1) is the spouse, child, stepchild, parent, or stepparent of the taxpayer, including adoptive relationships; and
- (2) resides in the taxpayer's home.

(b) The county treasurer shall do the following:

- (1) Waive the penalty imposed under section 10(a) of this chapter if the taxpayer or the taxpayer's representative:

- (A) petitions the county treasurer to waive the penalty not later than thirty (30) days after the due date of the installment subject to the penalty; and

- (B) files with the petition written proof that during the seven (7) day period ending on the installment due date the taxpayer or an immediate family member of the taxpayer died.

- (2) Give written notice to the taxpayer or the taxpayer's representative by mail of the treasurer's determination on the petition not later than thirty (30) days after the petition is filed with the treasurer.

(c) The department of local government finance shall prescribe:

- (1) the form of the petition; and
- (2) the type of written proof;

required under subsection (b).

(d) A taxpayer or a taxpayer's representative may appeal a determination of the county treasurer under subsection (b) to deny a penalty waiver by **filing a notice** in writing ~~a preliminary conference~~ with the treasurer not more than forty-five (45) days after the treasurer gives the taxpayer or the taxpayer's representative notice of the determination. An appeal initiated under this subsection is processed and determined in the same manner that an appeal is processed and determined under IC 6-1.1-15."

Page 114, line 7, strike "township".

Page 114, line 7, delete "or".

Page 115, line 5, after "by the" insert "**county**".

Page 115, line 5, strike "township" and insert "**county**".

Page 115, line 6, delete "or the county assessor if there is no township assessor for".

Page 115, line 7, delete "the township,".

Page 115, line 24, strike "township" and insert "**county**".

Page 115, line 24, delete ", or the county assessor if there is no".

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Page 115, line 25, delete "township assessor for the township,".
 Page 115, line 38, after "(1) the" insert "**county**".
 Page 115, line 38, strike "township" and insert "**county**".
 Page 115, line 39, delete "," and insert ";".
 Page 115, line 39, delete "or the county assessor if there is no township assessor".
 Page 115, delete line 40.
 Page 116, line 17, after "(D) the" insert "**county**".
 Page 116, line 17, strike "township" and insert "**county**".
 Page 116, line 18, delete ", or the county assessor if there is no township" and insert ";".
 Page 116, line 19, delete "assessor for the township;".
 Page 116, line 31, after "(4) the" insert "**county**".
 Page 116, line 31, strike "township" and insert "**county**".
 Page 116, line 32, delete ", or the county assessor if there is no township assessor" and insert ";".
 Page 116, delete line 33.
 Page 117, line 12, after "(5) the" insert "**county**".
 Page 117, line 12, strike "township" and insert "**county**".
 Page 117, line 13, delete ", or the county assessor if there is no township assessor" and insert ";".
 Page 117, delete line 14.
 Page 119, line 19, strike "the township assessor".
 Page 119, line 19, delete "(if any),".
 Page 121, line 13, strike "township" and insert "**county**".
 Page 121, line 13, delete ", or the county assessor if there is no".
 Page 121, line 14, delete "township assessor for the township".
 Page 121, line 18, strike "township".
 Page 121, line 18, delete "or".
 Page 121, line 20, strike "township".
 Page 121, line 20, delete "or".
 Page 124, line 23, strike "township assessors".
 Page 124, line 23, delete "(if any)".
 Page 124, line 23, strike "and".
 Page 126, line 13, strike "(2) A township assessor".
 Page 126, line 14, strike "(3)" and insert "(2)".
 Page 126, line 15, delete "or township".
 Page 126, line 36, after "if the" insert "**county**".
 Page 126, line 36, strike "of the county".
 Page 126, line 36, strike "township" and insert "**county**".
 Page 126, line 36, delete "(if ".
 Page 126, line 37, delete "any)".

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Page 130, line 12, strike "township assessor".

Page 130, line 12, delete "(if any)".

Page 130, line 12, strike "or the".

Page 131, line 35, strike "township assessor".

Page 131, line 35, delete "(if ".

Page 131, line 36, delete "any)".

Page 131, line 36, strike "or the".

Page 132, between lines 6 and 7, begin a new paragraph and insert:
"SECTION 144. IC 34-17-2-1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 1. **(a)** An information
described in IC 34-17-1-1 may be filed:

(1) by the prosecuting attorney in the circuit court of the proper
county, upon the prosecuting attorney's own relation, whenever
the prosecuting attorney:

(A) determines it to be the prosecuting attorney's duty to do so;
or

(B) is directed by the court or other competent authority; or
(2) by any other person on the person's own relation, whenever
the person claims an interest in the office, franchise, or
corporation that is the subject of the information.

**(b) The prosecuting attorney shall file an information in the
circuit court of the county against the county assessor under
IC 34-17-1-1(2) if the board of county commissioners adopts an
ordinance under IC 6-1.1-4-31(f)."**

Page 132, line 37, strike "township".

Page 132, line 38, delete "assessor, or the".

Page 132, line 38, delete "if there is no township assessor for".

Page 132, line 39, delete "the township,".

Page 133, line 16, strike "and township assessor".

Page 133, line 16, delete "(if any)".

Page 133, line 17, delete "or".

Page 133, line 18, delete "assessor's".

Page 133, line 40, strike "township".

Page 133, line 41, before "(if" strike "assessor".

Page 133, line 41, delete "(if any),".

Page 134, line 35, strike "township".

Page 134, line 36, delete "assessor, or the".

Page 134, line 36, delete "if there is no township".

Page 134, line 37, delete "assessor for the township,".

Page 135, between lines 7 and 8, begin a new paragraph and insert:
"SECTION 149. IC 36-2-7-13 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 13. The county fiscal

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body may grant to the county assessor, in addition to the compensation fixed under IC 36-2-5, a per diem for each day that the assessor is engaged in general reassessment activities. ~~including service on the county land valuation commission.~~ This section applies regardless of whether professional assessing services are provided under a contract to one (1) or more townships in the county.

SECTION 150. IC 36-2-15-3 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 3. **(a) Subject to subsection (b),** the assessor shall keep ~~his~~ **the assessor's** office in a building provided at the county seat by the county executive. ~~He~~ **The assessor** shall keep ~~his~~ **the** office open for business during regular business hours on every day of the year except Sundays and legal holidays. However, ~~he~~ **the assessor** may close ~~his~~ **the** office on days specified by the county executive according to custom and practice of the county.

(b) After June 30, 2008, the county assessor may establish one (1) or more satellite offices in the county."

Page 135, line 19, after "IC 6-1.1" insert ".".

Page 135, line 19, delete "in a township that is not served by a township".

Page 135, delete line 20.

Page 136, between lines 31 and 32, begin a new paragraph and insert:

"SECTION 152. IC 36-2-16-8 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 8. **(a)** The county assessor may appoint the number of full-time or part-time deputies and employees authorized by the county fiscal body.

(b) After June 30, 2009, an employee of the county assessor who performs real property assessing duties must hold a level two or level three certification under IC 6-1.1-35.5."

Page 136, line 37, strike "township" and insert "**county**".

Page 136, line 38, after "assessor" insert ".".

Page 136, line 38, delete "(if any).".

Page 138, line 11, strike "township".

Page 138, line 12, delete "assessor, or the".

Page 138, line 12, delete "if there is no township".

Page 138, line 13, delete "assessor for the township,".

Page 139, line 37, strike "township".

Page 139, line 38, delete "assessor, or the".

Page 139, line 38, delete "if there is no township assessor for".

Page 139, line 39, delete "the township,".

Page 140, line 20, strike "township assessor".

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Page 140, line 20, delete "(if any),".

Page 140, line 20, after "officer" delete ",".

Page 141, line 12, delete "township" and insert "**county**".

Page 141, line 13, delete "township" and insert "**county**".

Page 141, line 13, delete ", or the county assessor" and insert ".".

Page 141, delete line 14.

Page 142, line 21, after "deputy" delete "," and insert "**or**".

Page 142, line 21, after "employee" delete ",".

Page 142, line 21, strike "or a technical".

Page 142, line 22, strike "adviser that assists" and insert "**of**".

Page 143, between lines 25 and 26, begin a new paragraph and insert:

"SECTION 161. IC 36-6-8-5 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 5. (a) When performing the real property reassessment duties prescribed by IC 6-1.1-4, a township assessor may receive per diem compensation, in addition to salary, at a rate fixed by the county fiscal body, for each day that ~~he the assessor~~ is engaged in reassessment activities. ~~including service on the county land valuation commission.~~

(b) Subsection (a) applies regardless of whether professional assessing services are provided to a township under contract."

Page 144, delete lines 26 through 32, begin a new paragraph and insert:

"(b) For purposes of giving notice to the interested parties who are owners, the records in the bound volumes of the recent real estate tax assessment records as the records appear in

~~(1) the offices of the township assessors; or~~

~~(2) the office of the county assessor~~

as of the date of filing are considered determinative of the persons who are owners."

Page 145, line 19, strike "(i) the offices of the township assessors".

Page 145, line 19, delete "(if any);".

Page 145, line 19, strike "or".

Page 145, line 20, strike "(ii)".

Page 146, delete lines 23 through 29, begin a new paragraph and insert:

"(b) For purposes of giving notice to the interested parties who are owners, the records in the bound volumes of the recent real estate tax assessment records as the records appear in

~~(1) the offices of the township assessors; or~~

~~(2) the office of the county assessor~~

as of the date of filing are considered determinative of the persons who

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are owners."

Page 147, line 2, strike "township assessors".

Page 147, line 2, delete "(if any),".

Page 148, line 5, strike "township".

Page 148, line 6, delete "assessor, or the".

Page 148, line 6, delete "if there is no township".

Page 148, line 7, delete "assessor for the township,".

Page 149, line 22, strike "township".

Page 149, line 23, delete "assessor, or the".

Page 149, line 23, delete "if there is no township".

Page 149, line 24, delete "assessor for the township,".

Page 150, line 17, before "assessor, or" strike "township" and insert "county".

Page 150, line 17, delete "or the county assessor if there is no township".

Page 150, line 18, delete "assessor for the township,".

Page 150, line 26, after "IC 6-1.1-1-5.5;" insert "IC 6-1.1-1-22;".

Page 150, line 26, after "IC 6-1.1-1-24;" insert "IC 6-1.1-4-13.8; IC 6-1.1-35-4; IC 6-1.1-35-5;".

Page 150, delete lines 28 through 35, begin a new paragraph and insert:

"SECTION 170. [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008] **(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this act, an individual who before July 1, 2009, is:**

(1) elected to; or

(2) selected to fill a vacancy in;

the office of elected township assessor is entitled to remain in office until the end of the term to which the individual was elected or for which the individual was selected to fill a vacancy. The sole duty of the individual after June 30, 2008, is to assist the county assessor in the transfer, effective July 1, 2008, of records and operations from the township assessor to the county assessor under this act."

Page 150, between lines 39 and 40, begin a new paragraph and insert:

"SECTION 171. [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE] (a) IC 3-13-11 does not apply to a vacancy in the office of elected township assessor that occurs after the effective date of this SECTION and before July 1, 2008.

(b) This SECTION expires July 1, 2008."

Page 151, between lines 40 and 41, begin a new paragraph and insert:

"SECTION 175. [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE] (a) Before

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January 1, 2009, the department of local government finance shall prepare a request for funding of the software system referred to in IC 6-1.1-31.5-3.5(e), as amended by this act, in the state biennial budget for the state fiscal years beginning July 1, 2008, and ending June 30, 2010.

(b) This SECTION expires July 1, 2010.

SECTION 176. [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE] (a) The following are transferred to the county assessor:

(1) On July 1, 2008:

(A) employment positions as of June 30, 2008, of each elected township assessor in the county, including:

- (i) the employment position of the elected township assessor; and
- (ii) the employment positions of all employees of the elected township assessor;

(B) real and personal property of elected township assessors and township trustee-assessors in the county used solely to carry out property assessment duties;

(C) obligations outstanding on June 30, 2008, of elected township assessors and township trustee-assessors in the county relating to property assessment duties; and

(D) funds on hand for the purpose of carrying out property assessment duties in the amount determined by the county auditor.

(2) On the date an individual referred to in SECTION 165 of this act leaves office, funds on hand for the operation of the individual's office in the amount determined by the county auditor.

(b) Before July 1, 2008, the county assessor shall interview, or give the opportunity to interview to, each individual who:

(1) is an employee of an elected township assessor or a trustee-assessor in the county as of the effective date of this SECTION; and

(2) applies before June 1, 2008, for an employment position referred to in subsection (a)(1)(A).

(c) A township shall transfer to the county assessor all revenue received after June 30, 2008, that is received by the township for the purpose of carrying out property assessment duties in the amount determined by the county auditor."

Page 152, after line 3, begin a new paragraph and insert:

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"SECTION 178. **An emergency is declared for this act.**".

Renumber all SECTIONS consecutively.

and when so amended that said bill do pass.

(Reference is to SB 16 as introduced.)

LAWSON C, Chairperson

Committee Vote: Yeas 5, Nays 4.

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